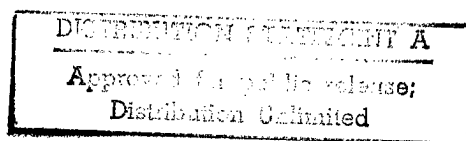


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Southeast Asia Report



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7 APRIL 1987

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

CONTENTS

INDONESIA

Visiting IGGI Chief on Aid to Indonesia (ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN, 24 Feb 87)	1
Suharto Inaugurates Cold Rolling Mill (ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN, 23 Feb 87)	2
IPTN Sole Maker of BO-105 Helicopters (ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN, 28 Feb 87)	3
Value of LNG Exports Down, Oil Exports Up (ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN, 26 Feb 87)	4
Value of Nonoil Exports Increases (ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN, 26 Feb 87)	5
Briefs	
Transmigration to Irian Jaya	6
Oil Discovery in Tarakan	6
LPG Plant Construction Agreement	6
Soybean Imports	7

PHILIPPINES

French Solon Delegation Supports CPP Legalization (THE MANILA CHRONICLE, 15 Mar 87)	8
Buscayno Attacks Aquino at PNB Election Rally (Roy de Guzman; PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, 16 Mar 87) ...	10
Ilocano Loyalty to Marcos, Hopes for Return Profiled (Bryan Matthews; ASIA MAGAZINE, 22 Feb 87)	12
WE FORUM Analyzes Congress Campaign, Rates Candidates (WE FORUM, 4 Mar 87)	15

Party Support Undependable, Editorial	15
Aquino Ticket Weaknesses, by Ernesto R. Rodriguez	16
Comelec Plans To Control Election 'Hot Spots'	
(Marlen Ronquillo; PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, 17 Mar 87)	17
Government, Church Put Pressure on Leftist Clergy	
(Various sources, 16, 18 Mar 87)	19
Bishop's Shift Seen, by Mynardo Macaraig	19
Sin Seeks Rebel Priests' Resignations, by Nimfa Rueda,	
Roy de Guzman	20
CNL To Continue 'Revolutionary Work', by Nimfa U. Rueda	22
Church Urged Not To Be Government 'Tool'	23
Official Hits Conservative Anticommunist Church Activities	
(Shiela Coronel; THE MANILA CHRONICLE, 17 Mar 87)	25
Ramos on Registration of Army Fraternities	
(THE MANILA CHRONICLE, 13 Mar 87)	29
Paper Views Military Failure To Apprehend Errant Officers	
(Jose G. Burgos; WE FORUM, 4 Mar 87)	30
Northern Zamboanga PC Bribes, Double Standard Reported	
(THE MINDANAO OBSERVER, 16 Feb 87)	31
Editorial Hits 'Flip-Flop' Decision on CHDF	
(PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, 19 Mar 87)	32
Metro Manila Mayors Request Arms for Local Officials	
(AFP, 19 Mar 87)	33
PCHR Fears Abuses by Anticommunist Vigilantes	
(KYODO, 19 Mar 87)	34
Cabinet Secretaries Visit Mindoro Tribe, Hear Complaints	
(Bernardo V. Lopez; MR. & MS., 13-19 Feb 87)	35
Kalinga Group Resists Autonomy, Igorot 'Hegemony'	
(Candy Quimpo; MR. & MRS., 13-19 Feb 87)	39
MILF Spokesman To 'Verify' NPA Tie-Up Report	
(THE MINDANAO CROSS, 14 Feb 87)	42
MNLF Splinter Leader on Autonomy, More Unity	
(Macapanton Abbas Interview; MR. & MS., 13-19 Feb 87) ...	44
Zamboanga Christians Form Armed Movement	
(Raissa E. Robles; THE MANILA CHRONICLE, 16 Mar 87)	47

Northern Zamboanga Paper on Local Government Double Standard (Editorial; THE MINDANAO OBSERVER, 16 Feb 87)	49
MNLF Stages 'Show of Force' in Maguindanao (Manila Radio Veritas, 19 Mar 87)	50
Over 4,000 Families Flee Central Mindanao Fighting (THE MINDANAO CROSS, 14 Feb 87)	51
Cotabato Publisher on NPA, Moro Concerns (Patricio P. Diaz; THE MINDANAO CROSS, 14 Feb 87)	52
Cotabato Paper Criticizes Autonomy Commission Makeup (Editorial; THE MINDANAO CROSS, 14 Feb 87)	53
Official Raises Taiwan Trade Hope, Hits Land Reform Lag (Rene Y. Daymiel; THE MINDANAO OBSERVER, 29 Dec 86)	55
1986 Cotabato Income Drops 6.5 Percent (THE MINDANAO CROSS, 14 Feb 87)	56
Broadcasters Monitor Rural Copra Price Against Fraud (THE MINDANAO OBSERVER, 16 Feb 87)	57
Details on Resumed Copra Exports Reported (BUSINESS DAY, 18 Mar 87)	58
Import Supervision Scheme To Increase Revenue (BUSINESS DAY, 20 Mar 87)	61
New Business Registration Posts Gains (BUSINESS DAY, 23 Mar 87)	63
Briefs	
Ople Warns Parties on Foreign Support	66
Aquino Prayer for Bombing Victims	66
NPA Gun-Grabbing Increase	66
NPA Liquidation List	67
Rebels Surrender in Visayas	67
World Bank Approves Loans	67
Seven NPA in Negros Captured	67

THAILAND

Editorial Sees Failure of Reagan Foreign Policy (Pricha Piamphongsan; KHAO PHISSET, 22-28 Dec 86)	68
Bunchu Discusses Objectives, Potential in Lao Trade (Bunchu Rotchanasathian; SU ANAKHOT, 25-30 Dec 86)	71

Evaluation of Southern Muslim Separatist Group, Suppression (Kampanat Wintawiro; MATICHON SUT SAPDA, 7 Dec 86)	74
---	----

VIETNAM

MILITARY AFFAIRS, PUBLIC SECURITY

Role of Political Task in Economic Missions Discussed (Nguyen Nam Khanh; TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, Nov 86) ...	81
--	----

Ferry Boat Captain Arrests Group Attempting Escape by Sea (Bich Thuan; QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, 8 Dec 86)	91
--	----

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AID

Agricultural Official Comments on Cooperation With USSR (Nguyen Dan; KHOA HOC VA KY THUAT NONG NGHIEP, Nov 86)	92
---	----

PARTY ACTIVITIES, GOVERNMENT

Fatherland Front Activities To Improve People's Lives (DOC LAP, 10 Dec 86)	98
---	----

Table of Contents of November Youth Journal (THANH NIEN, Oct 86)	100
---	-----

ECONOMIC PLANNING, COMMERCE, FINANCE

Writer: To Reestablish Market Order, Must Stabilize Production (Huu Tam; DOC LAP, 10 Dec 86)	102
---	-----

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VISITING IGGI CHIEF ON AID TO INDONESIA

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 24 Feb 87 pp A7, A8

[Text] Visiting Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation/Chairman of the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) Piet Bukman paid a courtesy call on President Soeharto at the Bina Graha presidential office here Tuesday.

After the 30-minute meeting, Bukman told newsmen that his current visit to Indonesia was aimed at obtaining information and clear views on difficulties faced by Indonesia, particularly in economic and financial fields.

In addition, he went on, the visit was also intended to explore the possibilities of granting both long and short term loans from IGGI to Indonesia.

Bukman also said that while here he had also had intensive discussions with several cabinet ministers in order to obtain first hand information on various projects to be implemented under Indonesia's development programs.

He said that President Soeharto briefed him on various policies taken by the Indonesian government in facing the current economic situation.

He also said that he was aware that Indonesia was at present lacking of local fund to finance several development projects in the country.

But he promised that he would convince the IGGI members to extend aid to the Indonesian government for carrying out her development programs, he added.

Answering a question, Bukman said that he could not say how much IGGI would extend its aid to Indonesia this year, because his side was still waiting a report from the World Bank on the economic situation in Indonesia.

The report would be announced before the IGGI meeting scheduled for next June at The Hague, he said and hastily added that the report would then be studied by the IGGI members. After which, the IGGI would take a decision on the extent of aid to be given to Indonesia, he added.

He also disclosed that during the meeting with the head of state, the two leaders did not touch on the aid to be granted by IGGI for Indonesia this year.

While in the country the IGGI chairman is also scheduled to visit several development projects financed by the IGGI aid in West Java and southern Sumatra.

SUHARTO INAUGURATES COLD ROLLING MILL

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 23 Feb 87 p A4

[Text] President Soeharto has reminded that protection given by the government to an industrial sector was essentially a public sacrifice, so that it could not be of long duration.

"One should be aware that protection should be of temporary character and only given within a limited time", the President said Monday at the inauguration of the cold rolling mill. PT Cold Rolling Mill Indonesia Utama, in the Cilegon industrial complex, Banten, West Java.

It is therefore appropriate, he said, that the newly completed factory, the first of its kind in Indonesia, should receive protection in the early stage of its existence. But that protection should be of temporary character, he added.

The new mill at Cilegon was built with an investment of US\$803.13 million and has an installed capacity of 850,000 tons of steel sheets per year. It employs about 1,200 workers.

Its products consist of steel sheets, the basic material for corrugated iron, pipes, galvanized sheet-iron and tin-plates.

Previously thin steel plates were fully imported through the state-owned PT Krakatau Steel.

After the new mill becomes operational, it is expected that imports will be discontinued, so that about US\$82 million per year in foreign exchange could be saved.

/12828

CSO: 4200/423

IPTN SOLE MAKER OF BO-105 HELICOPTERS

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 28 Feb 87 pp A7, A8

[Text] West German aircraft company MBB has licenced its Indonesian partner, IPTN to become the only maker of BO-105 helicopters with 100 percent contents of local components, IPTN president director Dr. B.J. Habibie disclosed here Friday.

Habibie told a press conference that the decision was made in a top meeting of NTT, a partnership between MBB and IPTN on February 24 1987 in Jakarta.

With the decision, it means IPTN must produce 80 to 100 BO-105 helicopters a year, the same as the average number of MBB current sales. But the figures exclude those for the ASEAN market sold by IPTN.

Earlier Habibie who serves also as Minister for Research and Technology revealed that IPTN had produced 100 helicopters of BO-105 which were all sold for domestic needs.

As a matter of fact, the 100 percent local contents exclude those components such as engines, avionics, rotor head, rotor bleed. Habibie said most aircraft companies do not make these components themselves.

He noted the NTT decision was made after observing the current market of BO-105s which had been hit by the dollar appreciation against the German mark, a sluggish demand by oil companies due to a plunge in world oil prices.

To maintain the sales target of 80 to 100 helicopters a year, NTT then decided to grant the IPTN a license to produce BO-105 with 100 percent local content, the products of which will then be marketed by the MBB. The IPTN-made BO-105 is expected to sell for lower prices because of cheaper labour costs in Indonesia. At present the price of BO-105 is set at around US\$1.2 million, but the IPTN can squeeze it down to around US\$1 million only.

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CSO; 4200/423

VALUE OF LNG EXPORTS DOWN, OIL EXPORTS UP

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 26 Feb 87 pp A3, A4

[Text] The export value of Indonesian liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the first eleven months (January through November) of 1986 showed a decline of 25.4 per cent compared with the same period in 1985, according to temporary data received by ANTARA from Bank Indonesia Thursday.

LNG exports in the first 11 months of 1985 recorded a value of US\$ 3,497 million, while the corresponding period in 1986 stood at US\$ 2,610 million, which was a decline of US\$ 887 million or about 25.4 per cent.

The US\$ 2,610 million in foreign exchange earnings received in the 11 months of 1986, consisted of US\$ 1,251 million in earnings from shipments from the Badak field and the remaining US\$ 1,359 million from the Arun field.

Indonesia's Lng was in 1986 for the greater part exported to Japan and South Korea.

Meanwhile, the export value of Indonesian crude oil in the first nine months (January through September) of 1986 showed an increase of about 14.7 per cent compared with the corresponding period in 1985.

The export of Indonesian crude in the first nine months of 1985 recorded a value of US\$ 6,477 million, while the same period in 1986 stood at US\$ 7,432 million, an increase of about US\$ 955 million or 14.7 per cent.

Out of the US\$ 7,432 million in foreign earnings in the nine months of 1986, US\$ 3,426 million came from the state-owned oil company Pertamina, US\$ 46.85 million from foreign companies working under working contracts and US\$ 3,959 million from oil companies working under production-sharing contracts.

In 1986 the Indonesian crude oil was for the greater part exported to the US and Japan.

/12828

CSO: 4200/423

VALUE OF NONOIL EXPORTS INCREASES

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 26 Feb 87 pp A10, A11

[Text] Indonesia's non-oil/non-gas commodity exports during the first 11 months (January through November) of 1986 recorded an increase of about 7.5 per cent in comparison with the same period in 1985, according to data obtained by ANTARA from Bank Indonesia Thursday.

Exports of Indonesian non-oil/non-gas commodities during the 11 months of 1985 stood at US\$ 5,353 million in value, while in the same period of 1986 exports stood at US\$ 5,754 million; an increase of about US\$ 401 million or 7.5 per cent.

The increase in export value of non-oil/non-gas commodities was mainly due to improving prices of various non-oil/non-gas commodities, such as coffee, shrimps, tobacco, pepper and handicraft products.

Export of coffee during the first 11 months of 1986 recorded a value of US\$ 712 million (US\$ 460.03 million in 1985); shrimps US\$ 239.03 million (US\$ 187.35 million in 1985); tobacco US\$ 63.50 million (US\$ 42.42 million in 1985); pepper US\$ 103.44 million and handicraft products US\$ 673.50 million (US\$ 524.15 million in 1985).

The biggest export value in the first 11 months of 1986 was recorded by timber products, including plywood and sawn timber, with US\$ 1,032 million, followed by coffee in second place, handicraft products in third place, rubber (US\$ 563.29 million) and shrimps.

Non-oil/non-gas commodities recording an export value each between US\$ 100 to 200 million were tin, copper and pepper, while those recording an export value below US\$ 100 million were nickel, palm-oil and electronic goods.

These Indonesian non-oil/non-gas commodities had the US, Japan, EEC countries, the socialist countries in East Europe, South Korea, Hongkong, Singapore and the countries of the Middle East as export destination.

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CSO: 4200/423

BRIEFS

TRANSMIGRATION TO IRIAN JAYA--The Indonesian Government has resettled 23,723 families or 97,723 people in six regencies of Irian Jaya since 1970. A spokesman of the provincial transmigration office, Iman Sutoko, said here Wednesday that the transmigrants comprised 19,829 families (82,191 people) hailing from outside Irian Jaya and 3,234 families (15,514 people) were local migrants. The resettlement projects were among others located at Merauke, Sorong, Jayapura, Timika (Fak-fak regency), and Nabire (Paniai regency), he explained. [Text][Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 26 Feb 87 p A4]/12828

OIL DISCOVERY IN TARAKAN--A production sharing contractor of Pertamina state oil company, the Tesoro Tarakan Petroleum Company, recently discovered oil on Tarakan Island, East Kalimantan, with a capacity of 1,477 barrels per day, Pertamina spokesman K.A. Endin said here Thursday. The oil was discovered at Mamburungan 4A well at a depth of 1,610 to 1,627 meters. This was the third well discovered on the island after the discovery of two wells in 1985 with a capacity of 1,600 and 1,200 barrels per day each. Tesoro Tarakan Petroleum Company is a subsidiary of Tesoro Petroleum Corporation, which owns a 62.5 per cent share of a 24,851 hectare exploration area, while the remaining 37.5 per cent is owned by Tarakan Shell B.V., a firm owned by the Royal Dutch Shell Group. [Text][Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 26 Feb 87 p A1]/12828

LPG PLANT CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT--An agreement on the construction of two Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) processing plants in Arun, Aceh and Bontang, East Kalimantan, to realize the exports of 3.2 million tonnes LPG to Japan per year, was signed here Tuesday. Contract for the construction of Arun plant was signed by President Director of the state-owned oil and gas company Pertamina A.R. Ramly and President JGC Corporation Nabuo Yamada and President Director of Gas and Oil Chiyoda S. Koba for Bontang LPG plant which was witnessed by Japanese Ambassador to Indonesia Toshiaki Muto. Construction of the two plants was carried out to realize the LPG deal between Pertamina and seven Japanese main buyers which was signed on July 15, 1986. The contract covered LPG exports from Arun and Bontang amounting to 1.6 million tonnes per year respectively for ten years period. This is the first long term LPG deal in the world in large amount. Natural gas from the two fields was to date only processed into liquefied natural gas. Upon completion of the two plants it would also be able to process petroleum gas into LPG. The two new plants constructed at the total costs of 879.1 million dollars are scheduled to be completed in 1988. [Text][Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 24 Feb 87 p A8]/12828

SOYBEAN IMPORTS--Indonesia currently still imports 300,000 tonnes of soybean per year for raw materials and public consumption, Junior Minister for the Promotion of Food Products Eng. Wardoyo said. Addressing a gathering with the Functional Group mass here Monday, he said to save the state foreign exchange which was spent in large amount to import the commodity, Indonesia should expand the intensification areas of soybean to about 300,000 hectares per year considering the production today has only reached one ton per ha. The minister who spoke as a Golkar functionary believed that Indonesia would at a time stop the soybean import after achieving self sufficiency. Indonesia today has reached self sufficiency in rice production, whereas previously it was one of the largest rice importer in the world. [Text][Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 24 Feb 87 p A1]/12828

CSO: 4200/423

FRENCH SOLON DELEGATION SUPPORTS CPP LEGALIZATION

HK160338 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] The French senatorial delegation which visited the country last week had met with communist rebels in Bicol, and in its report to the French Senate, expressed support for the legalization of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

Senator Jean Lecanuet, head of the six-man fact-finding team, had "given the opinion" that if legalized and forced to give up arms, local guerrillas would be neutralized and might end up much like the French communists which are now said to be losing popular support.

French Embassy officials initially denied such a meeting had taken place. Later an embassy spokesman said that if indeed the meeting had occurred, it was "not an organized one."

"When you visit an area and get to talk to a lot of people, you would no longer be able to tell who is an NPA or not," information officer Yean Pierre Syngedaw told the CHRONICLE.

Foreign Assistant Secretary for European Affairs Pablo Araque said the French senators inquired about the possible legalization of the CPP and the obstacles blocking such a move.

"They want to find out how the CPP stands. The government has said that if they disavow the use of force, then there is no problem, no reason for them not to be allowed to take part in the political process," Araque said.

The French lawmakers, he said, were familiar with the country's 17-year insurgency. The secret meeting could not constitute an act of foreign intervention because the encounter was purely "an observation and goodwill visit," Araque added.

CHRONICLE sources, however, said the French solons showed keen interest, among other things, in the sectoral organizations closely associated with the CPP.

"They wanted to know how many member-organizations the National Democratic Front has," the sources said.

Lecanuet's party which helicoptered to Bicol and stayed there for three days, purportedly to inspect the province's irrigation systems, were escorted by soldiers wherever they went. Araque said the delegation saw a similarity between Bicol and Negros in terms of underdevelopment.

"It was something unusual in the sense that they saw an aspect of the real Philippines," he said.

Diplomatic sources pointed to France's experience with communist parties to explain the senators' interest in the CPP.

France's leftist movement, composed of communists, socialists and radicals, joined forces in the early 1960s to confront the strong leadership of the late President, Gen. Charles de Gaulle. The election that followed saw the communists garnering 73 seats in the National Assembly.

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CSO: 4200/426

BUSCAYNO ATTACKS AQUINO AT PNB ELECTION RALLY

HK161235 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 16 Mar 87 pp 1, 10

[By Roy de Guzman]

[Text] Partido ng Bayan [PNB] senatorial candidate Bernabe Buscayno, unleashing his most searing attack against President Aquino, said Saturday night her administration is a "replica" of the Marcos regime.

"We have already spent much time trusting this government but still nothing has been done for the suffering masses," Buscayno, who was freed from detention by Ms. Aquino, said at the PNB's proclamation rally at Plaza Sta. Cruz.

It was the first time Buscayno, who was arrested in 1976 while commanding the communist New People's Army, came out in the open to attack the Aquino government.

Buscayno, who used to be known as Kumander Dante, leads five other political prisoners and an exile during Marcos' time, in the PNB senatorial slate for the May 11 polls. It will be the first political exercise the Left will be participating in since 1947.

"Let us stop asking for reforms from those in government," he told the crowd of 7,000 people. "Our liberation lies in our own hands."

He then called on farmers to grab the land they own, workers to struggle for their rights, slum dwellers to protect their shanties from demolition crews, and the people to participate actively in the upcoming polls which he described at the beginning of "new politics, a new rule, new government and new laws."

He criticized those in the Left for "not taking advantage of the situation" and for shunning political exercises in the past years and during President Aquino's regime.

"We should learn from our mistakes," he said.

Buscayno said the coming polls are significant because they also mark a new phase in the leftist struggle for a more popular and democratic form of government.

By rejecting the new government, the Left paved the way for opportunists entry into the bureaucracy. Now, he said, the "fence-sitters" occupy prominent posts and have built a sizeable mass base.

"We should remember that the democracy we now enjoy was not handed down by Cory but is the result of long years of often bloody struggle," Buscayno said.

It is the Left's task, he said, not only to defend that democratic space still available but also to expand it.

The other PNB candidates, in their speeches, also dramatized the difference between the PNB-waged "new politics" and the traditional politics of the elite.

Jaime Tadeo, chairman of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas [KMP-Peasants Movement of the Philippines], said there will be no hope in future legislatures as in the 1986 Constitutional Commission, if those to sit in them are not mass-based leaders. He vowed to work for land reform once elected, saying this could lead to a solution of the country's two major problems--worsening economic crisis and insurgency.

Lawyer Romeo Capulong of the National Democratic Front who returned to the country after nearly a decade of exile in the United States, said voters need to be critical in supporting administration candidates.

Even Malacanang candidates, Capulong claimed, are "rotten politicians" and exhorted the crowd to support the seven PNB bets and former Customs Commissioner Wigberto Tanada.

"Unlike old politicians, we cannot buy radio and TV time to win. But we believe our voices will not be drowned out because our voices are your voices, the voices of the people," said technocrat Horacio "Boy" Morales in his prepared speech. He promised to bring to the Senate the institutionalization of "people power" in all government units, down to the barangay.

The Left's participation in the polls was unexpected, said Crispin Beltran, chairman of the militant Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU--1 May Movement]. Even inside Congress, oppressive laws cannot be removed without street rallies, he added.

Jose Burgos Jr., newspaper publisher, said he will be battling for press freedom in the legislature, while woman activist Nelia Sancho vowed not only to work for equality between the sexes but other "people's issues" as well, like the dismantling of U.S. bases here.

The PNB proclamation night lasted five hours, with intermittent fireworks displays, activist songs dished out by music banks and hearted speeches from other street parliamentarians.

The leftist campaign starts Monday with a thorough Metro Manila drive and on March 22, the team leaves for out-of-town sorties.

/8309

CSO: 4200/426

ILOCANO LOYALTY TO MARCOS, HOPES FOR RETURN PROFILED

Hong Kong ASIA MAGAZINE in English 22 Feb 87 pp 12, 13

[Article by Bryan Matthews]

[Text]

At Laoag International Airport, a small group of soldiers keeps its eyes on the skies in case of a homecoming thousands of Filipinos living nearby still dream of — and one the government of President Corazon Aquino is determined not to allow. A year after the revolution that expelled President Ferdinand Marcos, the province of Ilocos Norte, where he was born, is still more or less Marcos Country. And, if the exiled former leader was to attempt a comeback, he'd be likely to try it via Laoag, the provincial capital. When the regular rumours of a return by Marcos start spreading, the first thing the Aquino government does is to close the city's airport to all but domestic Philippine Airlines (PAL) traffic.

A major section of the runway is strewn with boulders and barbed wire to prevent any unauthorised landings. A couple of Armalite-toting soldiers carefully scrutinise passengers descending the stairs from arriving PAL planes. Quite what they would do if Ilocos most famous son were by some miracle to confront them is uncertain — so, too, would be the reaction of Ilocanos, stunned a year ago today when Marcos's regime suddenly crumbled.

In Batac, where the former president lived for many years, feelings appear to run high. In the run-up to the constitutional plebiscite earlier this month, the city was plastered with enormous billboards exhorting their fallen leader. The Marcos government's vote count in last year's presidential election gave Marcos 21,906 votes in Batac. Aquino got just 56. In some smaller towns she scored a zero

— and the local community leaders who facilitated such whitewashes picked up a reported \$100 from Marcos's KBL party.

In Laoag City, Marcos's 43,189 votes swamped Aquino's 888. The rest of Ilocos Norte voted 189,897 for Marcos and 718 for Aquino. "Statistically improbable" was one of the more polite reactions from Aquino supporters at the time. The figures in the vote on Mrs Aquino's constitution were, predictably, something of an improvement.

Ilocos Norte, traditionally, was one of the mainstays of the political area known as the "Solid North" under Marcos, a rich source of votes in provinces covering most of the northern part of the main island of Luzon. In the Philippines, great importance is attached to supporting your "province-mates" — more so in politics where appointments and favours are often handed out on the basis of provincial ties.

Ilocos Norte certainly did better than many other provinces under the Marcos years as he rewarded his province-mates for their support with roads and facilities the envy of neglected areas elsewhere in the archipelago. A year on in Ilocos Norte, most Ilocanos still remember Marcos warmly. Many of the elders who grew up with him and watched his political career are outraged at how "the Americans kidnapped him" and took him

to Hawaii. The younger generations appear to want to press on with tackling the future rather than mourning the departure of "the Great Ilocano."

Bishop Edmundo Abaya, of Laoag, says: "The people who are really vocal and aggressive about Marcos returning, like those putting up the Marcos billboards, are the ones who have lost power and influence now that he is gone. They're just preparing themselves for the slight chance that he might return so they can say they backed him all along. I don't think he'd get a hero's welcome if he returned — you can really only honour a hero once, not twice."

Bishop Abaya said there was resentment about the revolution and how Marcos had to leave "but it easily subsided among many people. Today, many simply have sympathy for him," added Abaya, "not just because he was the president but because he is an Ilocano and right now he's sick, he's down and out, and he's stuck in Hawaii."

Others disagree. One Aquino government official in Laoag City conceded: "A lot of people here still clamour for Marcos's return." Graffiti and radio broadcasts indicate that Marcos is still missed by many.

Many Ilocanos, traditionally known as the thriftiest of Filipinos, choose not to believe the stories of Marcos illegally amassing wealth and write it off as propaganda by the Aquino government. Others point the finger of blame at the extravagance of Mrs Imelda Marcos. Said Abaya: "Even those who are close to the president have been saying how they wish Imelda had not dipped her hand so deeply. The psychology of the Ilocanos, being thrifty people, means they don't think much of those who go in for huge spending."

An official of Marcos's KBL party in Laoag lamented: "They say behind every man's success there is a woman. Behind every man's downfall, there is also a woman."

The Marcos influence and legacy in Ilocos Norte is hard to miss. At the massive, but almost deserted, Fort Ilocandia Resort Hotel, a Marcos "gift" to the region for a tourist industry that never materialised, a telephone operator absently puts a request for a call to the Laoag mayor's office through to the law office of Rodolfo Farinas, the KBL mayor replaced a year ago by the Aquino government. Farinas is still widely known as "the mayor" even though his compromise replacement, an 85-year-old doctor who was the only man Farinas would agree to replacing him, is well-liked.

The beautiful Fort Ilocandia Hotel was rushed for completion in time to accommodate guests who attended the wedding of Marcos's daughter, Irene, in June 1983. The second wing, with 124 rooms, stands half-finished. The 126 rooms which are open to guests have been fully booked just once — for the wedding. Occupancy last year was nine per cent.

Feasibility studies that led to the building of the hotel put potential custom for higher than the best year to date, 1984, which managed 22 per cent. But the tourists never went, even though Laoag Airport was improved to take 737s and other tourist attractions, including a magnificent golf course and sports complex at nearby Paoay, were built. For a few months, charter groups arrived on flights from Hong Kong and Taiwan but that trade tailed off.

Properly marketed, there probably still could be a tourism business in what is one of the most beautiful and interesting parts of the country. The Marcos government didn't bother, however. For Marcos, at least, the development meant that he had a top class golf course nearby so he could play his favourite game when he stayed at the family home overlooking Paoay Lake and now known as the "Malacanang of the North" on the tour itinerary for the few visitors the area does get. You can even stay in one of the guest rooms in the Marcos home for 350 pesos (\$17.50) a night.

The sleepy town of Sarrat, where Marcos was born, still pays silent homage to its erstwhile hero although the Marcos Museum, housed in his former home, is now closed. Children play outside on Marcos Street. A few metres away, on Ver Street, the mother of General Fabian Ver still lives in the house where Marcos's armed forces chief lived as a boy. The street named after the infamous Ver somewhat inappropriately intersects with Rizal Street, named after the Philippines' national hero, Dr Jose P. Rizal. Opposite the church in Sarrat, where Irene Marcos was married, an armoured personnel carrier sits outside the local police headquarters, also prepared for an unlikely homecoming; one that probably would severely test the loyalties of the armed forces in Marcos Country.

And in Ilocos Norte you can still hear the Marcos message as it is carried across the province and beyond on pro-Marcos radio stations, like Laoag's DZJC. DZJC carried a live Christmas and New Year message from Marcos in Hawaii and one of its key programmes is presented by KBL stalwart Julio Barnido, who regularly berates the Aquino government over the airwaves and assures listeners that Marcos will return.

Barnido, a member of Ilocos Norte's governing provincial board under Marcos's son, Bong-bong, who was governor until the revolution, concedes that a Marcos homecoming might spark violence, but says: "Whatever problems we will encounter when President Marcos comes back will be overtaken by the benefits because we will be assured that under Mr Marcos, the country will not fall to the communists."

Barnido says he is ready and waiting to rally Ilocanos to welcome Marcos when he comes back, just as Cardinal Sin rallied Aquino supporters with radio appeals to join the People Power revolution. Said Barnido: "Of course President Marcos will return. Only God can say when."

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CSO: 4200/425

WE FORUM ANALYZES CONGRESS CAMPAIGN, RATES CANDIDATES

Party Support Undependable

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 4 Mar 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Junking"]

[Text]

This early, when the political climate is still nebulous, ugly talks about junking of candidates in the congressional elections on May 11 are already doing the rounds.

In fact, one of the more visible senatorial candidates, Ernesto Maceda, former Minister of Natural Resources, confirmed persistent rumors yesterday that he and some other aspirants of the ruling coalition might be junked for still unknown reasons.

The truth of the matter is that the dubious dropping of support by political parties in general, and ward leaders, in particular, has become a part of the Filipinos' political way of life.

The diversity of political beliefs and persuasions under the present regime adds more reason for certain unscrupulous politicians to carry out the junking scheme with impunity.

In the senate race, for instance, where the voters are expected to write down twenty four names on their ballots, the possibility of leaving out some candidates of the contending parties is far greater than in previous political exercises.

The May 11 elections can be considered an easy opportunity for some party leaders to work for other candidates because of the

Filipino trait of "utang na loob", where one is expected to repay someone from whom one owes a past favor.

Be that as it may, the senatorial candidates should not be so naive as to depend so much on their political machineries ... which may include even the active campaigning of patron saint Corazon Aquino.

Aquino Ticket Weaknesses

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 4 Mar 87 p 4

["Politics & Politicos" by Ernesto R. Rodriquez Jr.: "Can Cory's Senate Ticket Make It?"]

[Text]

They're off! And already they are breathing hard.

That is how the senatorial bets of the ruling party find themselves as they ride off to the wars. It's going to be a rough course for them all the way, believe me.

They say it is a powerhouse ticket. It is and again it is not. It will all depend on how they comport themselves during the next few weeks.

Powerhouse, bah! That's all because they have been anointed by the house that is in power today. But take a look at them. Do they really look formidable? Compare them with what the Opposition promises to harness against them, and you will probably say, "Oh, well."

What do I foresee? It is going to be nip and tuck, as they say. As Al Smith once said, "Let's look at the record." What have these 22 gentlemen and two ladies have to offer us, on the basis of their experience, talent, performance, let alone background?

Since our senators-to-be will be elected in a nationwide balloting, the battle for honors will have to be

settled in a kind of popularity contest, right? Those who bear famous names will have the magic of strength behind them. Salonga, Manglapus, Laurel, Osmena, Romulo, Tañada, Maceda and Aquino, they are the names that will ring the bell for the voter. That's already eight names, to begin with. And who is the voter who will bother to write down all the 24? If there were block voting, it will be a different ball game. One could just write down "Bansa" and that's it. But 24 names! It will take a lot of time and most voters just don't care that much. Let's face it. Filipinos are, as a rule, lazy.

What are the other names that could tempt the voter to try his luck with? Offhand, I would say: Pimentel (Nene's a good guy really), Tamano (a gentleman to the core and he's a former senator too), Guingona (Tito has chalked up a splendid record as chairman of the Commission on Audit), Paterno (an honest man), Gonzales (he's the big boss of the Lakas ng Bansa), and my very own candidate Arthur Defensor. All the others will have to sweat it out if they expect to make it.

I am worried about my good friend and lawyer

Rene Saguisag, also Santanina Rasul, who is a member of the College Editors Guild Alumni Association and a brilliant woman from Sulu, Bobbit Sanchez, Boy Herrera, Leticia Ramos Shahani, Orly Mercado, Sonny Alvarez, Eddie Angara, Victor Ziga, and another CEG alumnus Joey Lina. Yes, there are several CEG alumni on the Cory senatorial team, namely, Raul Manglapus, Ernie Maceda, Joey Lina, Santanina Rasul, Rene Saguisag. I owe them a special treatment.

As I said, Jovy Salonga, Raul Manglapus, Sonny Osmena, Ernie Maceda, Nene Pimentel, Bert Romulo, Tito Guingona, Teroy Laurel, Butz Aquino, Nep Gonzales, Mike Tamano, and even Bobby Tanada, may make it without much difficulty. That's 12. With respect to the others, I'll keep my fingers crossed. Rene Saguisag is an intellectual who volunteered to defend us in the WE Forum case (another was Tito Guingona), so I should be rooting for him.

As municipal mayor of my hometown (with a voting population of 30,310), I should be able to help many of the Cory candidates. But then, it will all depend on how they fare at the hustings.

At this writing, the Opposition ticket is not yet out. But I'll write about them next time. I wish to emphasize here that what I say in my column is my personal opinion; it is not in connection with my identity as an administration man. That is why it is perfectly possible that I will have a jaundiced view of things when I actually go to the polls to make my decision on May 11.

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CSO: 4200/425

COMELEC PLANS TO CONTROL ELECTION 'HOT SPOTS'

HK171301 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 10

[By Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] plans to place under its full control on May 11 scores of towns and provinces tagged by the military as "hot spots" in order to prevent election violence.

Comelec sources, disclosing this yesterday, said top officials of the poll body have agreed to be "very discreet" in determining the areas to be placed under full Comelec control to dispel suspicion that it has other motives than trying to prevent election violence.

The list of the "hot spots," according to the sources, will be drawn up a few days before Election Day and after a full evaluation by the military of the peace and order situation in every town, city, province and region in the country.

Placing critical areas under its full control is one of the emergency powers of the poll body.

The Comelec virtually runs the military and civilian affairs of the government in areas under its full control.

"We have to have a fallback position, a last resort to check violence in critical areas," the sources quoted Comelec officials as saying.

Although the sources declined to identify the specific areas under tight Comelec watch, a confidential military report said 500 towns or a third of the country are explosive areas in the coming elections.

The report whose contents were revealed to Comelec officials in a close door briefing last week said the 500 towns are either the strongholds of political warlords or hotbeds of communist insurgency.

The towns are mostly in Central Luzon, the Ilocos region, Cagayan Valley, Western Visayas and Central Mindanao.

According to Comelec records, most of these towns have a history of election-related violence.

Meanwhile, the Comelec created task forces in 74 provinces and 63 cities to tear down streamers and posters bigger than the limits prescribed by the election code.

Ordered torn down in the directive of Comelec Chairman Ramon Felipe Jr. are streamers bigger than the allowed size of 3x8 meters. Handbills, posters, and other propaganda materials which are more than the 8x14 inches maximum size prescribed by the Comelec will also be removed by the task forces.

The task forces were created in the wake of findings that the senatorial candidates of both the administration and the opposition have propaganda materials bigger than the authorized size.

In a related development in the Comelec rejected the registration of the Bangsa Moro Islamic Party (BMIP).

In a 6-1 vote, the Comelec said the BMIP is not a political organization but a religious sect.

The group is headed by Firdaussi Abbas, a senatorial candidate of the Grand Alliance for Democracy. Abbas earlier said the BMIP will field congressional bets in Muslim areas in Mindanao.

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CSO: 4200/426

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT, CHURCH PUT PRESSURE ON LEFTIST CLERGY

Bishop's Shift Seen

HK160315 Hong Kong AFP in English 0240 GMT 16 Mar 87

[By Mynardo Macaraig]

[Text] Manila, March 16 (AFP)--The Philippine Government and the Roman Catholic Church are increasing pressure on leftist clergymen who have been assisting Communist insurgents across the country.

In the latest incident in the southern Philippines, a parish priest was accused of having taken part in a Communist ambush of an army truck last Saturday, in which five soldiers and three civilians were killed.

Father Diosdado Ladera denied the charge, but he also does not hide his antipathy for the military. He justified the ambush as a retaliation for counter-insurgency operations and the murder of six rebels by the military during a 60-day ceasefire that expired in February.

In the southern city of Davao, where military-supported anti-Communist groups have arisen, the Redemptorist fathers are dubbed "red-dem-terrorists" by rightist radio broadcasters, while an convent-run school that once sheltered leftist marchers has the words "agents of Satan" painted on its wall.

Last Wednesday troops raided a convent in Pilar, on Panay Island in the central Philippines, and seized a hand grenade, rusty bullets, long knives and subversive documents, while the convent priest was subjected to a public harangue in the marketplace by the military commander.

The priest has said that he believes the evidence was largely planted.

During the regime of deposed president Ferdinand Marcos, anti-government sentiments were common among the clergy, with even Manila's archbishop, Jaime Cardinal Sin, openly criticizing the government.

But since Corazon Aquino took power 13 months ago, with church support, anti-government clergymen--particularly those affiliated with Communist insurgents--have come under increasing pressure from both government and the Church hierarchy.

Dozens of priests and nuns have in recent years joined the Communist insurgent movement.

The National Democratic Front, a coalition of rebel groups, has as one of its pillars the Christians for National Liberation, which preaches a form of liberation theology which is increasingly discomfoting to the mainstream church.

But in recent months, many of the country's bishops, including those previously close to the left, have come to the forefront of the government campaign to forge regional ceasefires with the rebels, a strategy condemned by the leftists both above and underground.

Cardinal Sin has become increasingly more supportive of government counter-insurgency efforts. On Friday he declared that priests and nuns were forbidden to join or support insurgent movements.

He also reiterated a Church policy calling for the clergy to refrain from participating in partisan politics.

That statement came amid reported plans by a leading legal leftist party, Partido ng Bayan, to field sympathetic priests in upcoming congressional elections.

The Christians for National Liberation has in turn branded the Church hierarchy's actions, which undermine its own efforts to politicize the clergy, as merely a reaffirmation of the traditional Church's feudalistic nature.

In the largely Catholic Philippines, clergy support goes a long way in establishing the morality of a movement and in winning popularity.

Both the government and the insurgents can be expected to heat up the charges and countercharges in an attempt to establish that God is on their respective sides.

Sin Seeks Rebel Priests' Resignations

HK181241 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 18 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[By Nimfa Rueda and Roy de Guzman]

[Text] Jaime Cardinal Sin will ask the Vatican to allow militant clergymen who joined the under-ground to leave their priestly vocations.

"We are doing everything we can to ask dispensation from Rome so they (rebel priests) may live a normal life," Sin told a recent press forum.

He said if rebel priests and nuns resurface, "they will be asked to resign their calling."

A spokesman of the clandestine Christians for National Liberation (CNL) said his group counts a few bishops, 300 priests, 500 seminarians and 1,000 nuns as members.

Sin said Fr. Rustico Tan--one of the most visible rebel priests who acted as local peace negotiator for Cebu rebels during the ceasefire--might be declared a "persona non grata" once he returns to the Church.

Cebu newspapers quoted Ricardo Cardinal Vidal as saying that Tan has been expelled by his congregation, the Missionary of the Sacred Heart (MSC), but MSC Superior Fr. Manuel Hilario denied this, explaining that Tan's absence was a result of a "mutual agreement" between him and Tan days before he [word indistinct] off to join the New People's Army.

Sources in militant church circles said Tan fears for his life following the death of fellow negotiator Jovito Plaza and persistent reports that the military is out to liquidate him.

Sin further called on newsmen to stop referring to rebel priests as "father" and said they should instead be referred to as "mister." He cited Cordillera's Conrado Balweg.

Sin and Balweg met for nearly one hour during the latter's stay in Manila last week. Balweg told the INQUIRER that he sought and got the Cardinal's support for the Cordillera native's struggle to set up an autonomous government in the area. He said they did not discuss his status as a priest.

Reacting to Sin's charge that he no longer should be considered a priest, Balweg said: "I do not find anything contradictory in what I do and in my calling as a priest."

"I believe that what I am doing is in furtherance of my priestly vocation," Balweg said. "This is just part of my commitment to offer my life in service of the Filipino people."

Balweg bolted communist ranks last year to form his own army, the Cordillera People's Liberation Army, and start peace talks [word indistinct].

He has also since married Corazon Cortel, an Abra native, who bore him two sons.

Sin left for Vatican Monday night but aides said his 12-day visit is not connected with his [as printed] plan for dispensation.

CNL To Continue 'Revolutionary Work'

HK161149 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 16 Mar 87 pp 1, 10

[By Nimfa U. Rueda]

[Text] An underground organization of leftist clergymen, admitting for the first time that their ranks include "a few bishops," vowed to continue taking part in the armed struggle being waged by communist-led rebels despite a ban issued by the Catholic hierarchy.

A spokesman for the Christians for National Liberation (CNL), who claimed to be a priest and identified himself as Crescencio dela Cruz, told the INQUIRER his group refuses to abandon its revolutionary work despite the church hierarchy's prohibition on priests and nuns from joining leftist organizations, "which advocate class struggle and violence as a means of social change."

A ranking prelate told a recent forum that the church is "cleansing her ranks" of leftist ideologues who, he said, make up "only a very small group."

CNL claims, however, a membership of 4,182 including seminarians, nuns, priests and bishops.

The group was organized in February 1972 with 72 members, many of them clergymen. It was disbanded after martial law was declared but was re-established as an underground organization in the mid-1970s.

Papal Nuncio Msgr. Bruno Torpigliani was quoted last week as saying communist infiltration in the clergy is one of the major problems confronting the Church.

CNL spokesman Dela Cruz, in an interview said the group maintains that clergymen's involvement in the leftist underground is within the "doctrinal parameters" established by the Church and is consistent with the teachings of the Gospel.

"By joining the movement we do not turn against the faith and the Catholic Church," he said. "It rather enhances our vocation and service to the people."

Dela Cruz said the statement issued by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines at the end of its 54th Congress is one of the bishops' "most conservative statements." He added: "It reflects the Catholic Church's retrogressive swing to conservatism."

The CNL spokesman said the armed struggle waged by communist-led rebels "is not designed to wreak havoc or chaos but to seek a decisive solution to the people's suffering, to destroy the old system and create a new one."

He added: "Our commitment to the revolution is the historical expression of our vocation to help build God's kingdom. It is the political incarnation of our Christian faith at the present stage of the country's history."

Dela Cruz bewailed what he described as the move by the conservative bloc in the Church to "isolate the leftist clergy."

He said the bloc, which he stressed includes the "social democrats," is collaborating with the military and other "reactionary forces" in their drive against the "national democrats" within the Church.

He added that while the Church hierarchy may appear neutral or "centrist" it has, he insisted, actually "taken the side of the ruling few who want to preserve the status quo."

The CNL spokesman said this is evident in the hierarchy's endorsement of the government's use of force against the rebels and the condemnation of the armed struggle.

"Why should the Church back the war of violence--structural and physical--of the powerful against the just war being waged by our people? Has the Church become the church of the oppressor? Is violence and armed struggle an exclusive right of the ruling classes?" he asked.

Dela Cruz also denied his group is trying to create a split within the church, saying the CNL wants to preserve unity among clergymen "as much as possible."

He said the CNL has as members 1,000 nuns, 500 seminarians, 300 priests and "a few bishops," and has been providing medical assistance, engaging in socio-political education work and launching literacy programs in far-flung communities.

He added that the CNL has members in almost all of the country's 72 dioceses.

Church Urged Not To Be Government 'Tool'

HK161301 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 16 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF]-NEGROS is urging ranking Church officials not to allow themselves to be used as "unwitting parties in the government's counter-insurgency drive and the policy of low-intensity conflict dictated by U.S. military advisers."

The revolutionary coalition made the appeal in an open letter to Bacolod Bishop Antonio Y. Fortich who was recently appointed national peace envoy by President Aquino.

The open letter to Bishop Fortich referred to a Malacanang announcement that 11 bishops were appointed official negotiators of the government on the regional level.

Meanwhile, government troops killed six New People's Army rebels in encounters in Bulacan and Camarines Sur the past four days, military reports said.

In Davao City, the military Saturday exhumed six more bodies of persons believed to have been executed by the rebels. This brought to 64 the total number of bodies so far dug out by the military in the city.

In Pilar, Capiz, about 700 residents of mountain barangays evacuated to the lowlands as government troops launched air and land operations against fleeing rebels.

The NDF said that in spite of its repeated announcement that it had foregone any regional negotiations at the moment, the government has persisted in its scheme of driving a wedge between the NDF's national and regional bodies.

Saying the bishops will surely get no positive response from regional NDF units, NDF-NEGROS said that in their disappointment, the bishops might expressly or tacitly sanction the all-out war of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] against the NDF and NPA.

It further said that with such a development, the military's atrocities against civilians might increase as "violations of human rights will soon become a 'necessary evil' to justify the annihilation of NDF/NPA forces."

The sanction of the bishops, the NDF said, considering the moral influence they exert on millions of civilians, would fuel more atrocities.

"This moral authority is much-needed by the government in its vain attempt to isolate and destroy politically and militarily the revolutionary forces," NDF-NEGROS said.

Acknowledging the Church's contribution to the poor in Negros, the NDF said it has come to respect and trust the Church in maintaining an open line of communication because of its "positive show of concern for humanity."

NDF-NEGROS, however, expressed disagreement with the Church's "acquiescence" in allowing itself "to be used as a tool" in pacification campaign of the Aquino government.

It said it would rather see the Church dissociate itself from involvement in the counter-insurgency conspiracy under the guise of "peace."

"We are happy to see the Church as partners of the people of God in seeking justice and freedom as he did in the past," it said.

Four NDF-NEGROS leaders--Pr. Vicenta Pelobello, Nemesio Demafiles, Silvino Fallardo and Fr. Frank Fernandez--signed the open letter.

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CSO: 4200/427

PHILIPPINES

OFFICIAL HITS CONSERVATIVE ANTICOMMUNIST CHURCH ACTIVITIES

HK171351 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[By Staffmember Shiela Coronel]

[Text] "Communists are believers of Satan," boomed Davao City radio commentator Jun Pala, "and between God and devil, we must not compromise."

Beneath the crystal chandeliers and the latticed wood ceiling of the Manila Hotel, 250 people ate mango mousse and listened to how, with a grenade launcher in his announcer's booth and land mines all around his radio station, this self-styled messenger of God and democracy fought communism.

By Pala's own account, it was his debut performance in Manila society. His trip from the fanatic fringe of extreme anti-communism to this genteel hall of social acceptability was arranged by a little-known organization called Causa, the political arm of the Unification Church founded by the controversial Korean Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

For three days last week, a Causa seminar brought together from all over the country university professors, sugar planters, military officers, medium-scale businessmen, trade unionists, journalists, religious, Muslim women and anti-communist fanatics like Pala.

At the end of the seminar, the participants agreed to set up Causa chapters in nine regions throughout the country and, armed with free manuals, slides and tapes, they vowed to replicate the seminar in their own areas.

A presidential adviser who has closely monitored similar activities said that Causa organizing efforts were part of a coordinated effort to build a national Right-wing network with covert American sponsorship. He added that a strong rightist movement was aimed at electing both legislative and local officials as well as influencing voting in a plebiscite on the U.S. bases.

The movement would hope to exert a strong Rightist lobby in government and eventually, to elect a Rightist President in 1972, the adviser, who asked not to be named, said.

In the last six months, Right-wing anti-communist groups have been organized at a frantic pace in many parts of the country. Some of them, like Pala's Alsa Masa [people's uprising] have armed vigilante components now officially acknowledged as effective instruments of counter-insurgency.

They not only enjoy military protection and support but also the blessings of national officials, such as Local Government Secretary Jaime Ferrer.

But these were all independent local initiatives until last month when these groups met at the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) office in Manila and banded together under the National Coalition against Communism. Last week, many of them met again, this time under Causa's sponsorship.

With its equation of communism to a denial of God, Causa injects an element of religious zeal in its anti-communism. At the same time, it presents an understandable ideological critique of the tenets of Marxism.

Said a seminar participant, Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abenina, Central Visayas Constabulary commander and acknowledged patron of anti-communist groups in Cebu, "I've read so much about communism but never understood it until I saw Causa's graphical presentation."

Abenina intends to use the Causa module in Cebu so that the anti-communist groups there can shift from their purely emotional agitation to more intelligent discussion.

Participants in the Causa seminar were billeted at the elegant Manila Hotel and under-went a series of lectures on communism. They also viewed cleverly presented films which interspersed images of communist leaders with that of corpses, riots and footages of Adolf Hitler.

All these presented the Causa view of a black-and-white world where choices are stark and simple: God or Satan, communism or democracy.

So effective was the seminar that at the closing ceremonies, a mild-mannered furniture manufacturer previously unconcerned about communism told the assembly, "I'm going to join you, Mr. Pala, and declare war against the communists."

Established by Moon in 1980, Causa, according to its manual, was intended "to provide Latin Americans with an ideological framework for their struggle against communism." Since then, it spread out to North America and Asia.

Bo Hi Pak, a former Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) official and South Korean military attache to Washington, is president of Causa International. According to 'Inside the League', an expose on the American Right, Causa also has a number of retired American generals on its board. These include General E. David Woellner, who works with former Central Intelligence Agency deputy director Ray Cline in the right-wing think-tank U.S. Global Strategy Council; Maj. Gen. Daniel O. Graham, retired chief of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency; and Lt. Gen. Gordon Summer, former chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board.

Causa activities in Latin America were marked by close collaboration with military dictatorships in Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and the former military regimes in Argentina and Bolivia, the expose said.

Inside the League cites Causa as one of over 100 "moonie" fronts which provide assistance to anti-communist rebels in Nicaragua and counter-insurgency activities in many parts of Latin America.

"I think Causa is a CIA front," says a presidential adviser who monitors Right-wing activities. "It is inimical to our interests in the sense that it's never healthy to allow another country to have influence over us to the extent they can literally dictate on us."

The adviser sees Causa as playing a role in "the covert part of U.S. operations to influence events" in the Philippines. He cites Causa's obviously deep well of funds. "The fact is, the shots will be called by people who have the resources," he said.

Despite these apprehensions, however, Vice President Salvador Laurel in a keynote speech at Causa seminar, said, "The need for the struggle mounted by Causa is most urgent in the case of the Philippines....Causa should find the Philippines a fertile field for its activities and programs."

Roger Johnstone, Causa vice-president for international activities, said that his organization has already been asked to carry out relief missions in the Philippines through the World Services Foundation, a Causa affiliate which has distributed goods, medicines and equipment in Latin America. These missions are believed to be part of American-sponsored counter-insurgency campaigns in that region.

An overriding theme of the Causa seminar--a theme echoed by anti-communist groups throughout the country and increasingly, by conservative government officials--is the need for private citizens and groups to launch their own aggressive anti-communist drives because the government alone may not be able to fight communism.

In a closing speech, Celia Diaz-Laurel, a recent Causa convert and president of the Spiritual Action Movement Foundation which co-sponsored the Causa seminar, said that while the Government has the Armed Forces to fight the New People's Army, it does not have a counterpart institution to challenge the National Democratic Front. "If the government has no plan to put up such a body," she said, then the citizens of the country must do it."

This approach worries such groups as the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP). In a recent letter to Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, chairman of the Catholic Bishops of the Philippines, the AMRSP said:

"The problem here is not communism; while as Christians we cannot accept the communist ideology, the solution is not in combatting communism. The solution lies in addressing the basic issues of injustice and in taking the steps to build a just order..."

Causa and similar organizations propagate the world view of the new Right conservatism of middle-class America. In the words of AMRSP, this world view is one "where American democracy and Western capitalism are perceived as instruments of God and the Soviet Union and Communism are the instruments of Satan."

"In the war against Satan (anything that questions or seems to threaten the American way), those on the side of the good can use any means," the AMRSP added. "Basically, this position accepts in practice that the end justifies the means."

In fact, Unificationism, the doctrine of the Reverend Moon, includes the dogma of "heavenly deception," which means that lying is necessary in doing God's work.

According to the Causa manual, Moon believes that he was chosen by God to "initiate a new way of fighting communism," through the alternative ideology of Godism, the main content of Causa seminars.

But reality in the Philippines does not lend itself easily to the black-and-white dichotomies of the new Right or of Unificationism. For it is the acknowledged fact that the present government was brought about by a rainbow coalition of political forces which are trying to build a plural democracy where divergent views can coexist without being forced to align themselves in simplistic categories.

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CSO: 4200/426

PHILIPPINES

RAMOS ON REGISTRATION OF ARMY FRATERNITIES

HK131355 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 13 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] Cagayan de Oro City--Armed Forces chief Gen. Fidel V. Ramos has directed all fraternal organizations in the military to register with the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] as part of the ongoing nationwide military reorganization.

Ramos specially mentioned the nationwide Guardians Brotherhood, Inc., [GBI] a military fraternity which reportedly claims 70 per cent membership of the AFP's more than 250,000 personnel.

The Armed Forces chief issued the directives on Tuesday during his visit to the two-fourth Brigade of the Army's 4th Infantry Division in Butuan City.

Ramos said the registration of GBI is geared to strengthen all AFP units in the country to foster unity and cooperation among military personnel.

Ramos expressed apprehension that fraternal organizations in the military are using the resources of the AFP to attain personal and organizational gains.

While the AFP does not prevent the formation of organizations within its circle, the organizations must operate within the provisions and directives of the AFP as a whole, Ramos added.

He said military fraternal organizations must only be limited to active military personnel, dependents, veterans, or those honorably discharged personnel with good moral character.

Ramos noted that the "Guardians" has even recruited civilians to its fold which "jeopardized" the inherent goals of the AFP. This makes the AFP political in nature, he added.

Ramos said military fraternities must strictly conform to established laws and regulations of the AFP, otherwise, the policy of the chain-command loses its value.

Ramos, however, allayed fears that members of unregistered military fraternities will be subjected to persecution that will affect their enlistment in the Armed Forces.

He said enlistment is based on performance and one's sincerity to carry out the traditional mission of the military to protect the civilians and the government.

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CSO: 4200/426

PAPER VIEWS MILITARY FAILURE TO APPREHEND ERRANT OFFICERS

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 4 Mar 87 p 4

["Publisher's Notes" by Jose G. Burgos, Jr.: "A Queer Behavior of the Military"]

[Text]

The way top military authorities have been behaving in pinning down maverick coup plotters General Jose Ma. Zumel, Col. Reynaldo Cabauatan, and Col. Rolando Abadilla is rather queer.

Of course I fully understand this kind of behavior in a fraternal organization where everyone is expected to become a little more tolerant of their mischievous peers.

I understand quite well that among colleagues in a profession there is that kind of personal bond that welds together the membership.

But the case of Zumel, et al. is quite different. They are wanted by the Filipino people for acts inimical to both the welfare and safety of the Republic.

If ordinary citizens who committed lesser crimes can be easily hounded and put behind bars why cannot the Armed Forces of the Philippines do the same?

If the authorities are really sincere in tracking down their fugitive members they can pinpoint the whereabouts of Zumel, Cabauatan and Abadilla. They are just around.

* * *

Col. Abadilla is an acquaintance of mine. Our paths crossed way back in 1982 when he led some 100 fully-armed Metrocom troopers in raiding the *WE Forum* office and arresting

10 of its staffers and columnists.

Abadilla came to prominence during the martial law years because of his activities as the Metrocom's intelligence officer. The mere mention of his name gave many militant members of cause-oriented groups, the jitters. I know one who charged Abadilla of torture. I also heard many other cases that are not exactly flattering to Abadilla's reputation.

After the February revolution many expected Abadilla to be grounded by his superiors. Their expectations fell short, however.

NORTHERN ZAMBOANGA PC BRIBES, DOUBLE STANDARD REPORTED

Dipolog City THE MINDANAO OBSERVER in English 16 Feb 87 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Philippine Constabulary elements who manned checkpoints leading to the southern municipalities of the province are allegedly collecting "tong" from motorcab drivers recently.

Sources said the PC allegedly stopped the motorcab drivers and demanded for their driver's licenses. When the drivers failed to show their licenses, the PC

would then ask for "monetary consideration" in exchange for their non-arrest.

What is lamentable, the sources said, is the fact that relatives of influential families who did not have licenses were not pestered by the tong collectors.

Because of this recent happening, some drivers refused to pick up passengers during night time who are bound for the barangays in the outskirts of the city, the sources added.

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CSO: 4200/425

EDITORIAL HITS 'FLIP-FLOP' DECISION ON CHDF

HK190825 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 19 Mar 87 p 4

[Editorial: "CHDF 'Flip-Flop'"]

[Text] Publicists of the political opposition have begun calling it a "flip-flop." And for the growing number of Filipinos who hailed the earlier Palace announcement that the President has ordered the immediate [preceding word in italics] disbandment of the notorious CHDF [Civilian Home Defense Force] and "private armies," the subsequent clarification from Malacanang that the matter had not yet been actually resolved, that it was still "under study" has turned out to be a disappointment.

Indeed, the so-called clarification from the palace had the ring of a denial to it, indicating to many that the President may have buckled under to pressure from quarters interested in keeping alive the militia, despite its horrible record of human rights violations and its dubious contribution to the government's campaign against the insurgency. But if that suspicion were at all true, the Aquino administration would have to act more decisively on the matter very soon. The Constitution its "chosen people" had drafted, the same document Ms. Aquino had campaigned vigorously for, outlaws such groups. And the administration cannot now seem like it was violating--or, at the very least, going around--that same charter, which after all is the government's covenant with the people.

Perhaps, the administration is beginning to lose sight of the fact that the resounding approval which the people turned in for the Constitution was to a large extent due to the charter's sold guarantees on human rights. There were many questions over what the charter has to say about the national patrimony and sovereignty, but what turned the argument in the favor of "yes" proponents were the Constitution's provisions on civil liberties, which, among other things, renders liberal definitions of individual freedoms. For a people who had to suffer through 14 long years of authoritarianism, that reaction was only natural.

But the CHDF and private armies as well as the vigilante groups, which are nothing more than a hybrid of the two, stand as grim reminders of those terror-filled years. These groups are a manifestation of the undercurrent of fascism that one year after the February revolution has not quite left us. And as the government continues to dilly-dally in implementing what is in fact a constitutional mandate, the danger of a fascist revival group with each passing day. The abolition of the CHDF and private armies is one issue which the Aquino administration cannot afford to equivocate on. The time to do it is now.

PHILIPPINES

METRO MANILA MAYORS REQUEST ARMS FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS

HK191517 Hong Kong AFP in English 1513 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 18 (AFP)--Metropolitan Manila mayors Thursday asked for guns to arm local officials against increasing communist rebel activity in the capital, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) reported.

The mayors made the request to the military authorities on behalf of more than 1,000 barangay officials in Manila and its satellite towns and cities, PNA said. The barangay is the basic political unit of this country.

The mayors sought a special meeting with police and military officers here, during which the civilian officials expressed shock at the inroads of the Communist New People's Army (NPA) into the metropolis, the agency said.

Eight policemen and soldiers have been killed in the past three weeks in attacks here suspected to have been mounted by the NPA.

However, the commander of the security forces in Metropolitan Manila, Brigadier General Alexander Aquirre, said over a local television station Thursday not all of the killings could be attributed to the NPA.

The general said there had been four assassinations carried out by the NPA in metropolitan Manila, and that communist insurgents had infiltrated 2.6 per cent of the barangays here.

But he added that common crime had increased as well.

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CSO: 4200/426

PHILIPPINES

PCHR FEARS ABUSES BY ANTICOMMUNIST VIGILANTES

OW191159 Tokyo KYODO in English 1150 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 19 KYODO--The Presidential Committee on Human Rights (PCHR) expressed fear Thursday that right-wing anticommunist vigilante groups "could be abused and could become a monster."

The PCHR, which investigates abuses committed by government troops, was referring to the alsa masa (uprising of the masses) movement formed by alleged members of the communist-led New People's Army (NPA) who surrendered to the military.

"Principally, the sentiment (of the people of Davao) is that this alsa masa group is spawning a lot of human rights problems," said lawyer Rene Sarmiento, a consultant of the committee who visited alsa masa areas in Davao over the weekend.

He said that they have received unofficial reports blaming the vigilantes for four murders, one rape case, several illegal arrests and searches, extortion and threats. "The people are afraid to sign affidavits," he said.

He also said that the vigilantes' firearms are "apparently provided by the military."

But Sarmiento added that "some businessmen and ex-politicians have expressed support" for the right-wing vigilantes.

The armed right-wing group, established a year ago in the Agdao slum district of Davao, has been the subject of debate since armed forces chief of staff Gen. Fidel Ramos expressed support last week for the organization in the campaign to roll back the 18-year insurgency.

President Corazon Aquino Monday directed the departments of national defense and local governments to draft an executive order implementing a constitutional provision banning all paramilitary groups, which could include alsa masa and another "unarmed" group, Nakasaka (united people for peace).

In a statement, the PCHR, said that it has "no objection to the organization of so-called vigilante groups provided they are strictly restricted to their respective neighborhoods, are unarmed, and their recruitment is clearly voluntary."

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CABINET SECRETARIES VISIT MINDORO TRIBE, HEAR COMPLAINTS

Manila MR. & MS. (Special Edition) in English 13-19 Feb 87 pp 14-16

[Article by Bernardo V. Lopez: "Of Ministers and Mangyans"]

[Text]

IT was a historic event that dumbfounded the handful of observers. Right before their eyes, men in g-strings and a woman seven months pregnant (Mangyan leaders from the *Samahang Pantribo ng Mangyan sa Mindoro* or SPMM) played footsy with Cory's two top ministers in spirited dialogue. They cornered Minister of Natural Resources Carlos Dominguez (MNR) and Minister of Energy Vicente Paterno (MOE) into conceding to their demands. The sweeping concessions were beyond all their dreams. The most touching thing about the whole affair was that the ministers were willing to be "cornered", finally aware of the decades of oppression

these people had gone through. This of course remains to be proven with the realization of the concessions.

It was really a drop of rain, all those concessions, but after decades of drought,

it felt like a deluge to the beleaguered Mangyans. For the first time in history, the government on a ministerial level descended from its cloud, stepped on the solid earth of Mindoro, and listened to the Mangyans and their woes. They did not come, as many government men from lower echelons did

before, to tell the Mangyans what their problems were and to offer total rescue as messiahs. What the Cordillera tribes and Muslims achieved after EDSA, the Mangyans have finally reached in their smaller way.

Minister Dominguez came first at 8:30 a.m. on that historic Friday, Feb. 6, 1987 at Bansud, Oriental Mindoro. About a thousand Mangyans came to hear what this important man had to say. As the helicopter descended, the crowd buzzed with excitement. As he stepped down, there was an

electric silence. They were eyeing every inch of the *barong*-clad minister, trying to see through his soul. They did not scream in utter idolatry. There was caution. The mystique of mountain people begins with intense wordless first-impressions. The colorful leis held by pretty young ladies and the programmed welcome rites were all cooked up by non-Mangyans. The Mangyans watched everything from the distance except for SPMM leaders who stepped forward to welcome Dominguez. Provincial Commander Col. Conrado Briton was around with a small security force for the ministers. The entourage included Deputy Minister of OMACC Fausto Lingating and Governor Benjamin Espiritu.

DISMANTLING AN ANCIENT SYSTEM

The Mangyans spoke first. They all had only one common problem — LAND

— that dwarfed all others. They spoke of the incursions of pastureland leaseholders, mostly rich but vicious Christian lowlanders who burnt their crops and hired goons to scare them away. These stories are common and decades old. In truth, the Mangyans have been systematically and gradually pushed back for many decades into the interior by migrant Tagalogs, Ilocanos, and Visayans backed up by a one-sided system of land laws which are easy to manipulate to their favor.

Dominguez gave his reply. He said that the pastureland system of laws was outdated, created in the '30s as a simple and economical way of raising cows at a time when land was plentiful and people scarce. His aim was to dismantle the entire age-old system, a gargantuan feat. The new way to raise cows today is the "back-yard cow-fattening system" where the government can allot cows to settlers, termed *pa-iwi* or *alagang kamay* in Batangas. The concept will not only remove the violent pastureland leaseholder but offer a chance for the Mangyan to raise his own few cows. Whether Dominguez and Cory have the power to scatter thousands of entrenched rich influential leaseholders (some in government and in politics) remains to be seen. The complex legal implications, the actual physical dismantling, and resurveying are huge tasks. Dominguez, anyway, seemed earnest.

MINDORO'S LAST VIRGIN FOREST

Next, a controversial logging concession surfaced. It was a staggering 46,000 hectares that included the entire Mt. Halcon, the highest peak in Mindoro nurturing the last virgin forests of Mindoro's north central highlands. Logging in this area will destabilize watersheds that nourish even the lush coastal plains. The concession affects about 30,000 Mangyans, promising to be as notorious and as infamous as Cellophil (in the Cordillera). News of the concession wrought panic among both Mangyans and lowlanders.

The concession was awarded by ex-Minister Maceda on Nov. 21, 1986 (Is this a "midnight" concession? The aborted coup came Nov. 23, wherein all ministers resigned and Enrile was sacked the next day). It was granted to the Cagayan Valley-based Oriental Wood Processing Inc., with Agustin Uy as signatory and president. It is not known if Uy is related to Cagayanon Gen. Antonio Uy, CIS head during the Marcos days, or if he has links with Enrile who, according to news reports, was instrumental in helping renew the timber licenses of Cagayan logging tycoons like Alfonso Lim during Maceda's time. Oriental's shareholders include Agustin Uy, Max Potenciano, Gregorio Uy, Jr., Samuel Uy, Joel Zapata, and Nenita Chan.

In an earlier telephone

interview, Dominguez said, "If it (the concession) was given fair and square by my predecessor (Maceda) I don't really stand a chance of cancelling it." He added, "If the governor (Benjamin Espiritu) wants a total logging ban in the area, I will have to respect his wishes." But, perhaps sensing mounting protest against this new type of Cellophil, Dominguez later changed his mind. In the Bansud dialogue, he announced that the concession is frozen until a study is made and it is certified that there are no harmful environmental effects. Espiritu backed up the Dominguez order, saying Oriental had no permit and construction of logging roads will also be frozen. The Mangyan crowd roared at the good tidings.

The Mangyans planned their moves way in advance. They had prepared a letter they wanted Dominguez to sign. It was a small demand that the government consult the Mangyan people (under the auspices of SPMM) before giving any decisions affecting their land and their people. Dominguez was "cornered" and signed in front of the screaming crowd. This seemingly great victory is ironically something the government must have done for ALL tribal groups decades ago. The mystery is — why only now? Dominguez left without fanfare.

THE "CHICO DAM OF MINDORO"

After lunch, Minister Paterno arrived. There was only one topic — the controversial F.F. Cruz coal mine in Cambunang, labled by the media as "the Chico Dam of Mindoro". Only, it was not a dam but a coal mine. But the pattern of corporate power versus ethnic survival was the same. Paterno had good tidings for the Mangyans. He earlier gave F.F. Cruz a cease-and-desist order on coal opera-

tions until studies are completed certifying that it is not harmful to the nearby Mangyan settlements and their *kaingins*, their only source of survival.

That was like removing a year-old thorn in the Mangyan's throat. For in truth, the Mangyans, with the help of Manila-based support groups and MABINI lawyer Atty. Donna Zapa, have been battling F.F. Cruz on a lower level since April 1986 when the controversy started. And the battle was long-drawn and complex with the elusive, shrewd, and influential F.F. Cruz dominating the situation. In spite of a previous temporary freeze order initiated by Gov. Espiritu, F.F. Cruz reportedly continued to operate (as Mangyan witnesses revealed) on the pretext of "incidental" production, the volume of which they kept secret from past fact-finding teams. F.F. Cruz was

also accused of having allies in the Bureau of Energy Development (BED) (signatory to the contract for the mines) and in the municipal governments of Canihunang and Bulalacao wherein previous false "people power" signatures were generated in favor of the mines. Their main argument was employment for the locals and "development", but the mines allegedly employ only two Christian locals and no Mangyans. The rest come from Zamboanga (Is this "development" for the locals or for F.F. Cruz?)

A historic debate between Paterno and the SPMM leaders ensued. F.F. Cruz, in accepting the freeze order, asked that a 55-meter ventilation tunnel be completed to remove harmful gases so workers could prevent the collapse of the mine shaft while the freeze order was in effect. Paterno wanted the Mangyans to set up a study committee to decide if this was alright. The Mangyans refused, claiming that the harmful gases were precisely the point of the environmental studies. Like a swarm of flies, the SPMM leaders pounced on Paterno, showing boxes of expired aspirin. F.F. Cruz reportedly gave as "medical aid". Juana Bilog (an apt name for the pregnant one), insisted that the maintenance of the tunnel during the freeze implied that F.F. Cruz was determined to stay. "*Itigil ang operasyon* (Stop the mine operation!)," she

shouted. The crowd shouted in unison! Even Bea Zobel (wife of Jaime, the ex-boss of Dominguez at BPI-Ayala) who is a new-found ally of the Mangyans, joined the melee, giving suggestions to end the impasse (She later had to "look for butterflies", proving she could do what

Mangyans do.) Finally, after 30 minutes of rebuttals, Paterno "surrendered" in the name of a people power much smaller than the one that installed his boss Cory. Paterno promised that the F.F. Cruz coal mines will remain frozen until their effects on the Mangyans and their *kaingins* are established. The Mangyans also "cornered" Briton to sign an agreement to implement the ministers' orders. That was how these mountain people razzle-dazzled the bigwigs from the city. Like Dominguez, Paterno signed an agreement under pressure of Mangyan people power.

This historic dialogue was facilitated by Rory Lopez of Alternative Mangyan Program for Development (AMPFOD). She states that the SPMM leadership proves that Mangyans can carry their struggle with little or no help from outside groups. The all-Mangyan SPMM was founded by Mangyan leaders without outside help, encompassing all seven linguistic tribes Mindoro-wide, having a network reach of about 25,000 out of the Mangyan population of about

100,000, a truly significant achievement for less than a year in a place where transportation facilities are practically nil. Communication is mainly through couriers on foot. This sudden politization of Mangyans who are traditionally non-fighters baffles even the anthropologists. However, the sweeping concession they "wrestled" from the two ministers have yet to be proven as a reality. They consider Dominguez and Paterno earnest and sincere in spite of their skepticism based on their history of oppression. They hope the government's promises are not like previous ones — shelved and forgotten.

Before Paterno left, Juana placed a lei around his neck. It was not a planned welcome ritual. It was simply spontaneous gratitude coming from the hearts of the mountain people of Mindoro. MM

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KALINGA GROUP RESISTS AUTONOMY, IGOROT 'HEGEMONY'

Manila MR. & MRS. (Special Edition) in English 13-19 Feb 87 pp 8-9

[Article by Candy Quimpo]

[Text]

"The New People's Army and the Military both claim wanting to be in Kalingga to save the people from the other. Let them save themselves. We have always taken care of ourselves. We never needed saviors. They should just go elsewhere and there do their war."

—KALINGA ELDER, 1986

THESE days, the din of a thousand clashing ideas resound in the mountain homelands of the North. There are those who preach Kaigorotan, unity. There are those who object vehemently to the imposed categorization, the hegemony of one tribal group (the Igorots) over the others. There is a campaign for autonomy, that the mountain folk rule over their own. And there is a campaign *against* autonomy, out of the fear that autonomy would isolate the uplands, providing Communists with a perfect

base for their revolutionary war. Rebel priest Conrado Balweg is the toast of media, the highlands' "folk hero". "Of what folk is he a hero?" ask tribals of Kalinga who resent the elevation of a man known for his dissolute ways.

Till now, common lowland knowledge had it that the mountain provinces were on the zigzag road to contentment, having obtained their wish for steps to be taken toward declaring the region autonomous.

But *Matagu Vochong* KISSM (Kalingga-isneg Self-rule and Self-determination Movement), a fledgling political organization which intends to draft candidates in the coming national elections, says otherwise. KISSM's vision of *Matagu Vochong* — *Matagu* meaning "people-powered"; and *Vochong* meaning "peace-pact" — "People-powered Peacepact", is by no means a recent dream. The Peacepact is the heart of Cordillera society: peace-

pacts between the dozens of tribes provide the links of unity amidst the diversity of cultures. Indeed, it is the preservation of this diversity that KISSM advocates. "We draw our strength to serve our country from our very distinctiveness," says

anthropologist Dr. Mariflor Parpan, KISSM convenor and adopted daughter of Pasil in Kalinga-Apayao, "We object to being converted into a cultural-political ghetto."

KISSM advocates local autonomy under a federalist system where each region

would be a coordinate of a center as opposed to the present form of autonomy where different ethno-linguistic groups, instead of going directly to the center, must refer to a mini-center — therefore becoming a minority within a minority.

Parpan, who for many years now has been studying and recording the ways of the Kalinga, scoffs at the Cordillera Peoples' Alliance's campaign for regional autonomy. The CPA's campaign bore fruit with the inclusion of an autonomy provision in the constitution. Parpan calls the CPA, an umbrella organization of tribal associations and support groups, a "Communist front". Parpan's tag for the CPA is acknowledged by the Kalinga elders who recently descended upon Manila to seek dialogues with various ministries. Said one Kalinga head: "This NDF, this NPA, this CPP — they are all the same people are they not? And though the CPA and the NPA have different faces, they are all faces on the same coin."

The autonomy campaign is based on the idea of "Kaigorotan Consciousness" — that all are Igorots and must therefore unite as one. The Kalinga is indignant at the idea that he could be anything else but Kalinga. Inter-tribal prejudices also run deep. "Who is the Igorot? Said Kalinga Apayao OIC vice-gov. Lawrence Wacnang, at a constitutional commission hearing on local governments: I am a Kalinga not an Igorot. No self-respecting Kalinga would accept the term for himself."

Explains Parpan: "*Igorot* is an exonym — an outsider's term for an insider. The lowlanders referred to the highlanders as *igulod* (the highlanders) which is how the Spaniards came to call them Igorots."

The Kalingas in particular, says Parpan, do not wish to be Igorotized. Igorotization would mean the superiority of the Igorot over the Kalinga. Said one elder, "*Igorotismo is Komunismo.*" The Igorotization of the entire Cordillera, said Parpan, would result in a homogenized, standardized people, as opposed to the term "Moro" which can refer to any of number of people practising Islam, "Igorot" is a "meaningless bankrupt" title. "Moro is a conceptual handle with content because it means 'Muslim'. Igorot is merely a geographical term, without the wealth of history of 'Moro'. The Left is using the term 'Igorot' as a conceptual tool that would consolidate the people

much in the same manner that 'Moro' was a unifying concept. While one is political gimmickry, the other is an authentic cultural term."

An assembly of more than 30 ili (social groups), representing over 70 peace-pacts met in Manila in January 1986. A 78-year-old Mabongtot ili resident pointed out the youth of the NPA as their source of strength. "The NPA are young," he said, "Therefore their main public is also young. Since they have the arms, they have the power. With this power they have created another center of authority. Authority in Kalinga resides in the old. The NPA in effect question this value for our elders, and our young now also question this authority of our elders...In Kalinga it is the people who decide that one is pangat (leader). Now, as long as you have the gun and the backing of an organized armed group, you declare yourself pangat."

The Matagu Vochong was inspired by the solidarity of Kalinga women who had an important role in the struggle to end the Chico River Dam project. Now known as Impa Pasil (Days of Pasil), it is recalled that the Kalinga women kept watch of the construction camp for nearly two months in 1976 (Sept. to Nov.) to determine the normal activities in the camp. In one fell swoop, the women were able to obstruct the National Power Council engineers and the engineering battalion. Every time the men attempted to set up camp, the women would whip off their Kain (wrap-around handwoven skirts) and thrash and tackle them with the pieces of clothing. (the act of baring one's self is equivalent to a curse). The women then dismantled the structures with their bare hands. In November 1976, they completed the dismantling of the NPC camp and deposited the construction materials at the provincial military command post, almost a 12-hour walk away.

It was an eerie enactment of People Power, 10 years before it came into public consciousness.

The KISSM campaign against autonomy has yet to find a venue for its expression. KISSM members claim that the issue was never brought to the attention of the Con-commissioners because consultations held by the Con-Com were announced only two days in advance and held only in Bontoc and Baguio City. When KISSM requested that consultation be held in another location but no reply was to be had. The Cordillera Peoples' Alliance however made it to the talks and apparently influenced the final decision to include a provision on autonomy in the constitution. Parpan is the target of a series of letters denouncing her constant involvement with highland matters. Ifugaos who visited Manila recently report that CPA Chairman William Claver, a Cordillera OIC, recently told a Cordillera newspaper that Parpan was responsible for the 40% No vote in the province because of her "meddling in the region's OIC politics." Last month, letters to a daily newspaper called Parpan "a political intruder", charging that she had no right to be Lakas ng Bansa chairperson of the Kalinga Apayao chapter. It was implied that she was never adopted by the tribe of Pasil. Sebastian Galming, one of the holders of that peace pact which adopted her, came to her rescue in a letter to the same paper saying that it was as the head of KISSM that she became Laban chairperson. Mariflor Parpan, it seems, has quite a few more rough mountain trails to traverse.

Meanwhile, the Yes or No argument in the mountains has been replaced by Autonomy or No Autonomy.

MILF SPOKESMAN TO 'VERIFY' NPA TIE-UP REPORT

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 14 Feb 87 pp 1, 12

[Article: MILF-NPA Tie-Up to Be Vertified; Composition of Commission Hit"]

[Text]

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front in the homeland is still going to verify the truth or falsity of the report in the Saudi Gazette that Chairman Salamat P. Hashim had revealed the plan of the MILF to have a tactical tie-up with the communist rebels, or the New People's Army.

This was the statement of Commander Mohagher Iqbal, MILF information bureau chief, during an interview under coconut trees somewhere in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao starting at 3:25 p.m. yesterday.

The Salamat statement, as quoted or cited from Saudi Gazette, was widely publicized by the Manila dailies, carried by different papers on different days, this week, creating disbelief or apprehension among local readers.

Iqbal said he had read the news item from The Philippine Inquirer just last Thursday. The MILF command here had not yet verified the statement from the chairman but it is going to verify as this is crucial to the on-going Philippine situation.

Commenting on the publication, he said the statement was not

impossible but "what's in the mind of the Chairman may be different from what's in the paper." Clearly, he was alluding to the tendency of newspapers to speculate.

Iqbal made distinction between tactical tie-up or alliance from the ideological. He said the latter tie-up or alliance can never happen between the MILF and the communists.

As reported in the Manila dailies, Salamat had already sent emissaries to the NDF. Iqbal virtually denied this when he stated that the local MILF command was still to communicate with Salamat to clarify his published statement.

On the ceasefire, Iqbal said that it is holding. But he said that the Office of the President had not yet replied to a letter sent by Commander Al Haj Murad about the terms of the temporary ceasefire as agreed between him and Minister Aquilino Pimentel, Jr.

Under present conditions, which he described as "fluid", Iqbal saw no grounds for the MILF to join the resumption of the MNLF-RP government talks in Zamboanga City on February 19.

MINDANAO COMMISSION

In relation to the MNLF-Philippine government negotiation which started last Monday, three leaders here deeply concerned with the Mindanao Problem criticized the composition of the Mindanao Peace and Development Commission.

As presently constituted, none of the three members represent the Christians and the hill-tribes in Region 12 and Region 11. The two Christian members are from Region 10 and the Muslim member from Region 9.

Asked for comment, LTP Chairman Zacaria A. Candao said that he had not been consulted about the membership. However, he said that Pimentel had told him that resource persons from multi-sectoral groups would be appointed to back up the Philippine panel.

In his written comment, Atty. Leonardo J. Rendon, city kagawad and leader of one concerned group which took position on the Mindanao Problem late last year, said:

"While I do not question the qualification and integrity of the membership for the government panel, I cannot help but wonder why some notable leaders from Regions IX and XII have not been given a chance to participate and articulate through this forum their ideas and propo-

sals on the kind of autonomy we shall have for our region.

"The active participation and involvement of representatives from the religious and civic sectors from Regions IX and XII in a formal dialogue with our Moslem leaders on the issue of local autonomy would be more meaningful than that carried on by people who cannot speak for the communities in the area of autonomy."

Ex-Judge Eduardo P. Si-ngayao, a leader of the hilltribes or the Tribal Filipinos, said in a telephone interview:

"It is very unfortunate that no representative or member in the Commission is coming from the hilltribes of Region 12. We are the most affected as we live in the province where Muslims are in big number.

"The non-representation of the hilltribes is practically curtailing the voice or participation of the biggest bulk of the hilltribes who have lived among the Muslims for centuries."

Kagawad Virgilio Leyretana Sr., another leader of the concerned group which came out with a position paper on the Mindanao Problem, considered it "most unfortunate and lamentable" that the Davao and Cotabato provinces "are not represented either in the official government

negotiating panel nor in the Joint Commission for Peace in Mindanao" even if the "MIM, the precursor of the MNLF and MILF, was first conceived and launched" in Cotabato.

He said that the people most informed about the Mindanao Problem and the Tripoli Agreement are from Cotabato so they can speak better for prevailing conditions and sentiments "better than any of those who may have been merely looking at our problems from a distance."

(Editor's Note: Due to the lack of space, we will publish in full Kagawad Leyretana's comments and proposals next issue.)

RF POSITION

Candao, in an interview Tuesday, said Pimentel had assured him that the government will deal with all Moro Front groups and does "not intend to divide the country."

The government, he said quoting Pimentel, would start the substantive negotiation only after the three factions have formed a common panel and common stand."

On the status of the present autonomy, he said there is no imminent danger of being abolished — at least for the next 90 days and until Congress has passed an organic law re-structuring the autonomy. — ppd.

MNLF SPLINTER LEADER ON AUTONOMY, MORE UNITY

Manila MR. & MS. (Special Edition) in English 13-19 Feb 87 p 11

[Interview with MNLF Reformist Macapanton Abbas, Jr.: "Factions Within Factions"; date and place not given]

[Text] Was Nur Misuari against including the MNLF Reformists and the MILF in the peace talks?

Initially, that was his position. He later modified it when he met with Hashim Salamat and Dimas Pundato. To present an image of unity, he "handpicked" representatives of the Reformists and the MILF. When he did this in Jeddah during the negotiations with Nene Pimentel and Butz Aquino, the MILF immediately denounced him as did the Reformists. The persons he presented were not connected with our organizations.

Since the Tripoli Agreement has been discarded, what would be the basis of dialogue if ever the three factions decided to deal with government negotiators?

The Jeddah agreement between the Pimentel panel and Misuari was autonomy for the whole of Mindanao, Sulu and Palawan. This may be the basis of their discussion. In our case, we feel that the Tripoli Agreement is the proper framework on the matter of autonomy. If the government would agree to give autonomy to the whole of Mindanao, why not? But the minimum should be the Tripoli Agreement. Misuari cannot decide this because he does not represent the whole MNLF.

Misuari has protested against the new Constitution's autonomy provision. Do you agree?

Misurai's MNLF, the Reformists and the MILF are all against the autonomy provision which was drafted to exclude the MNLF groups. The provision requires Congress to coordinate with a multi-sectoral commission. The idea came from Muslims allegedly representing the Moros in the (Constitutional) commission. It is very clear that since these people were not connected with any of the MNLF groups, they wanted to eliminate the MNLF groups.

Secondly, this violates the exclusive legislative authority vested on Congress. When you say you must have this (multi-sectoral) commission work with Congress for the purpose of enacting legislation on autonomy, you are violating the exclusive nature of legislative power. An appointive commission has no right

to circumscribe the exercise of legislative powers by elected representatives. Whoever created this provision is completely ignorant of constitutional law all over the world.

What is the only way then?

There is only one way. Autonomy, if it is to be established via negotiation with the MNLF must not be a mere legislative act. It must be an organic act. An organic act normally refers to the establishment of a commonwealth or something beyond the status of a province or a city. It must be a consensus, an agreement between two parties. Legislation is a matter of voting by members of a certain assembly. This is a matter of negotiation. And we have said that we will agree to a negotiation, the result of which will be a "bill" or the "act" to be submitted by the party in power for just ratification by the legislative authority.

This can all be done without even waiting for Congress to be convened. Under this provision, we are supposed to wait within 18 months after it is organized--meaning two more years. From now till then, there may be a general uprising, or a deterioration of peace, or even a civil war. It is too long a wait. If negotiations proceed for only one or two months, it will be settled. Since it will be resolved while there is still no Congress, the incumbent President can use her legislative powers to approve the final deal. What do the Reformists and the MILF feel about the Constitution?

Salamat Hashim opposed this Constitution. The MNLF Reformist group came out with a study from the different provincial committees comparing the Tripoli Agreement provision, the Marcos form of autonomy and the Constitution's type of autonomy. On the scale, the Tripoli Agreement scores a ten, the Marcos proposal a six, and the new Charter a two. The study says we must oppose it. The study also shows that the term "Muslim Mindanao" is undefined. It may mean any number of provinces. The way it is actually defined--sharing common and distinctive historical and cultural heritage, economic and social structure--is vague and ridiculous because it is subject to any interpretation.

Of course, there are some good points. Like the establishment of an executive department. The provision in Sec. 19 however is subject to many questions. The first Congress, after a period of 18 months from the time of organization of both houses, shall pass the organic act. But what if they don't? What is the sanction, the penalty? Nothing. And assuming you have 200 congressmen, how many Muslims will be included?

What if the MILF and the MNLF Reformist are included in the negotiations and Misuari decides not to join?

He will join. If he will not join, then that is his problem. It does not mean that his forces will all follow him. It is everybody's consensus that a solution is needed.

Misuari has a history of obstinately sticking to his stand. he has also been working for his goals for many years. Do you think he will give in easily to autonomy instead of independence?

Well, all the Arab papers criticized him for that agreement in Jeddah. First, he agreed to deal without the assurance that the autonomy provision would be suspended. Second, he made an agreement of a lower caliber than the Tripoli Agreement because a framework was not established. In the Tripoli Agreement, all provisions were stated clearly. Third, he was talking of independence but signed for autonomy. It's all politics on his side and we know it. That is why he has split the movement.

What do you think of the government's style of dealing not only with Misuari but also with other small groups?

That's the right approach. We cannot have one-third peace. Misuari cannot hold the peace for the whole of Southern Philippines. Neither can Salamat. But if the three groups agree, I think we can hold the peace together.

And what is the solution for a stable Mindanao?

The best solution is to give us autonomy. Basically we are content to discuss the implementation of an autonomy like that which we discussed with Ninoy Aquino in Kuala Lumpur in April, 1982. Ninoy committed himself to giving full support to autonomy. He said that within ten years, if it cannot be solved, he will give us independence on the basis of the Tripoli Agreement. We are holding (the government) to that commitment.

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CSO: 4200/425

ZAMBOANGA CHRISTIANS FORM ARMED MOVEMENT

HK161305 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[By staffmember Raissa E. Robles]

[Text] Zamboanga City--Christians here the [as printed] arming themselves as they express fears of an invasion by Muslim rebels this May if the current peace talks between the Government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) collapse.

"Most likely if the war breaks out, the city will be burned because it is the nerve center of Region 9 and the Southern Command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines," said a 45-year-old businessman who holds several key civic positions in the city of over 400,000 people.

The businessman, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, confessed he was an officer of the Mindanao Solidarity Movement [MSM] a wholly Christian armed group whose membership includes respected businessmen, civic leaders and low-ranking military officers and members of para-military groups.

The MSM was formed only last October in response to the attempt of MNLF chief Nur Misuari to visit the city along with his elite security force of some 300 armed men.

Misuari was then visiting various places in the South to consult residents on their views on autonomy. Zamboanga City Mayor Julio Cesar Climaco was reportedly ready to throw wide open the city gates for Misuari when a delegation of businessmen intervened.

"We told him (Climaco) we don't want him (Misuari) in the city. We told the military, don't ever let him into the city because if he enters he would be sprayed with bullets," the businessman told the CHRONICLE.

As a compromise, Misuari was allowed to enter Pitogo in the outskirts of the city where a Muslim university was established recently.

Since then, the MSM reportedly grew and spread to the city's 90 barangays. Now it has an average membership of 1,000 men in every barangay, the businessman said.

The Civilian Home Defense Force has been incorporated into the movement, he added. Though the military and the Government are aware of MSM's existence, they have not given official sanction or support and the group is purely a voluntary private effort, he added.

The city is predominantly Christian (60 percent) but with a sizeable Muslim population (40 percent) most of whom live in Rio Hondo and Campo Muslim. These villages look only a bit better and cleaner than the squatter areas of Metro Manila.

The city proudly sells itself in tourist brochures as the place where Christian and Muslim cultures blend harmoniously.

The blending, however, appears superficial. Random interviews of Christian residents revealed a deep-seated distrust and even contempt for the Muslims.

Muslims are considered trouble-makers who account for most of the crimes. "Never turn your back on a Muslim or you're likely to get stabbed," "Give him your hand and he will likely take your whole arm off," or "A good Muslim is a [word indistinct] Muslim," are how the Christians describe a Muslim.

These views were told to the CHRONICLE by a tricycle driver, a media worker, government employee and civic leader.

In reaction to this, MNLF chief negotiator Habib Hashim, who hails from the city, said he was aware of the discrimination. Many Muslims commit crimes because "they have been victims of oppression," Hashim said.

Hashim denied that the MNLF had any plans to invade the city. "Why should we invade Zamboanga when it is our land. Why should we kill our people?" They will only fight defensively, he claimed, if the military launches an offensive against them.

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CSO: 4200/426

NORTHERN ZAMBOANGA PAPER ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT DOUBLE STANDARD

Dipolog City THE MINDANAO OBSERVER in English 16 Feb 87 p 2

[Editorial: "ZANECO, Wake Up!"]

[Text] The trouble with some government entities lies in the so-called double-standard in the implementation of existing laws covering their services.

Take the case of ZANECO [Zamboanga del Norte Electric Cooperative]. Once again, it has become the subject of reports that it is practicing double standard--one for the rich and the influential, another for the common tao.

When moneyed consumers violate the rules, such as illegal tapping, ZANECO management appeared to play deaf and dumb. When only a small fry attempted to get away with the violation, hell is raised to prosecute the offender.

Who says ZANECO is not playing favorites? Or is it because the moneyed offenders have given "consideration" to keep their mouths shut?

Nothing is really impossible nowadays. Any reactions, Gen. Manager?

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CSO; 4200/425

MNLF STAGES 'SHOW OF FORCE' IN MAGUINDANAO

HK191119 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] The MNLF staged a show of force in three towns in Maguindanao as it marked its 19th anniversary. The march ended in Cotabato City. Here is Joel Maglubag with the details from Cotabato City.

[Begin recording] The men were in uniforms but unarmed, with some Moro women and young people. The number of people who took part in the march thinned out due to the heat of the day. The march also commemorated a bitter incident tagged the Jabidah massacre, in which more than 28 young Muslims undergoing military training were killed brutally by troops by ousted president Marcos in March 1968 on Corregidor Island. The MNLF condemned the incident as an attack against them committed by the previous regime.

In the march held this morning, the orderly proceeding of the long march was striking. The Muslims carried placards calling for peace and realization of autonomy in the south. [end recording]

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CSO: 4200/426

OVER 4,000 FAMILIES FLEE CENTRAL MINDANAO FIGHTING

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 14 Feb 87 pp 1, 9

[Text]

More than 4,000 families in the provinces of Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat and Cotabato have fled their homes as armed confrontations between rebel groups and between insurgents and government forces continue, this was gathered from the Ministry of Social Services and Development.

MSSD has compiled a total of 4,621 families of 26,179 persons affected by the troubles in Region 12 since last month.

In Maganoy 634 families with more than 3,000 dependents fled to the evacuation centers in Maganoy Poblacion, in the barrios of Timbangan, Nabundas and Lepok after hostilities erupted anew between elements of the MNLF and the MILF in Lower Mita.

The MSSD and the Philippine Relief Development Services, Inc., a private agency, distributed to the evacuees 50 bags of rice and six boxes of dried fish.

In Carmen, Cotabato, 313 families of 1,546 persons have not yet returned to their barangays -- Ugalingan, Northwest and Rancho -- since they left before the February 2 plebiscite due to the presence of armed men in areas near their barrios.

In Datu Piang Poblacion, there are still 450 families of 2,670 persons from Kitango, Salbo, Dapyawan, Bagan and Pagaten. They left their barrios during the MNLF-MILF encounters in the middle of last month. The hostilities erupted anew this week.

In Buluan, Maguindanao, 1,490 families from 22 barangays are now in Buluan Poblacion being served by the MSSD.

There are also 634 family-evacuees from the barrios of Estrella and Mabingon in President Quirino, Sultan Kudarat.

From Davao del Sur came 22 families to Udtong, Mariano Marcos, Sultan Kudarat. -- frm

COTABATO PUBLISHER ON NPA, MORO CONCERNS

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 14 Feb 87 pp 4,9

["Comments" by Patricio P. Diaz, Editor: "Timely Reminder"]

[Excerpt]

GOTTEN WISE

By now, the Aquino government should have gotten wise with the ways of the National Democratic Front and the communist organizations under it as well as its leftist allies. Outside of its own terms, there can be no peace with the NDF.

This was very clear from the beginning of the ceasefire negotiation. Assuming the stance of an alternative government of victorious rebels, the NDF dictated the terms of peace. In sum: The surrender of the Aquino government.

While keeping its doors for peace negotiation open, the Aquino government should ignore the NDF rhetoric and dictation. Negotiations with local rebel groups sound good but of doubtful efficacy. There is no alternative to reforms in the rural areas to deprive the rebellion of its mass base support.

Such an alternative calls for local government leadership. Strategy planners in Manila will forever be wasting their time, efforts and funds unless translated to reality on the local government level. This was how the insurgency grew under the Marcos regime;

the Aquino government has not yet altered the course in spite of the OIC's supplanting the KBL local executives and lawmakers.

No military operations, no matter how successful, can effect meaningful peace unless local leaders secure the victory with economic and social reforms and progress.

* * *

SMELL OF POWER

Habib Hashim, chief negotiator of the Moro National Liberation Front stated to the Manila media men "that the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the other Muslim groups have no personality to participate in the peace talks on autonomy for Southern Philippines."

The MNLF, he told newsmen, will oppose all moves by these other parties to have separate representation in the peace talks. The Philippine government, he further said, had recognized the MNLF as the sole representative of the Bangsa Moro people so the government cannot include the MILF in the Moro Front panel.

"The MILF is not even recognized by the Organization of Islamic Conference," The Manila Bulletin quoted Hashim.

The cat is out of the bag. This explains why Hashim and his panel would not sit alongside the three representatives of the MNLF Reformist Group. All slots in the negotiating panel have been assigned to MNLF representatives.

This foreshadows the governmental set up should the full autonomy be finally granted as being negotiated now by the Misuari group. The smell of power is in the air. From where it comes Chairman Nur Misuari beckons, wanting Chairman Salamat P. Hashim and Chairman Dimas Pundato to salute the MNLF banner. Such is unity!

By that statement to the Manila press last Tuesday, Habib Hashim, on the behalf of Chairman Misuari, has made clear the future under full autonomy to the Christians and the Tribal Filipinos.

COTABATO PAPER CRITICIZES AUTONOMY COMMISSION MAKEUP

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 14 Feb 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Taken for granted again"]

[Text] With the start of the negotiations between the Moro National Liberation Front and the Philippine Government in Manila last Monday, the Mindanao Peace and Development Commission was constituted. Its task, at least the first, is to formulate the autonomy proposals for the substantive negotiation.

This may not be the only task of the Commission as can be perceived from the policy statement of President Corazon C. Aquino last October 20 when she created it; nevertheless, this first task is very important to the future of the people of Mindanao.

Considering the importance of this first task of the Commission and its other tasks in the future along the consultative concept of government enunciated by President Aquino and the new Constitution, we note with great disappointment the lack of equal representation in the government side from the four regions of Mindanao.

Of the three government members, the Muslim representative is from Region 9 and the two Christians are from Region 10. Had limited membership precluded the appointment of more than three government representatives, the two Christian members should have come from Regions 11 and 12 considering the Christian experience in the historical, cultural, political and socio-economic factors that are going to be basically involved in the substantive negotiations.

This is not saying that the governor of Surigao del Norte and the President of Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City are totally ignorant of the Mindanao Problem. But their experiences are different; so their perceptions are different. The Mindanao Problem which gave birth to the Moro Front is rooted mainly in Southern Mindanao, Central Mindanao, and Southwestern Mindanao experiences.

According to panel member Agapito "Butz" Aquino, the government will base its position on the 1986 Constitution while the MNLF will probably base its proposals on the stipulations of the Tripoli Agreement. The government position seems silent on the basic issues of the Mindanao Problem. Apparently, Pimentel and Aquino are not expecting the MNLF appeal from alleged injustices the Muslims are perceived to have suffered from Christian settlers and the Manila government.

Considering the probable MNLF position and appeal, the Christians' experience as settlers, their experience in the changing cultural, socio-economic, and political life in the predominantly Muslim areas since their first coming in 1913, and their experience in the autonomy under the Tripoli Agreement since 1976 will put the Mindanao Problem in the proper perspective at the negotiation table and will strengthen the government position. Without these very valuable experiences considered, the proposals formulated by the Commission will not reflect the real

and true issues of the Mindanao Problem.

It was by their experience of seeing their position in the Mindanao Problem taken for granted and ignored that the Christian leads of Cotabato City came out boldly in the last half of 1986 to create a crisis. Apparently, it was this position of the Christian leaders with support from the other parts of Central and Southwestern Mindanao which brought about the October 20, 1986 conference in Malacanang.

And to show their grave concern about the Mindanao Problem, it was the leaders of Region 12 who reminded President Aquino, during her visit here last month, about the need to constitute the Mindanao Peace and Development Commission. Did the leaders of Region 10 care as much?

During the Marcos regime, the Christian leaders of Southern, Central and Southwestern Mindanao were ignored in the negotiation of the Tripoli Agreement. Under the Aquino government, they are not getting a better deal. Yet they have the greatest stake in the autonomy.

President Aquino should not be blamed for the ill-advised composition of the Commission. Her top advisers are. It's time the President be apprised of the mistake and our concern. For a real and true perspective of the issues of the Mindanao Problem, it is imperative that the Christians and the Tribal Filipinos in Southern, Central, and Southwestern Mindanao be each represented in the Commission.

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CSO: 4200/425

OFFICIAL RAISES TAIWAN TRADE HOPE, HITS LAND REFORM LAG

Dipolog City THE MINDANAO OBSERVER in English 29 Dec 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Rene Y. Daymiel: "Borinaga Bares Taiwan's Business Prospects Here"]

[Text]

Next year might be the good start for waxing up investment accords with Taiwan technology industrialists.

MAF-BFAR Provincial Officer Romanito Borinaga disclosed this possibility following his recent trip to Taiwan where he met some marine and agricultural development industrialists also considering Zamboanga del Norte as their next jump-off investment area after Mindoro where they are now making some headway.

He said the Taiwanese businessmen are only waiting for on Zamboanga del Norte's industrial potentials with a neat cut of honesty and professionalism.

The Taiwanese are interested to tap our marine and agricultural resources, specifically in the areas of fishpond development, canning, culture of exportable marine products, cereals and grains, he said.

Our side trips in Taiwan were more than enough for us to get mad at our country's disorganized farming system still requiring some tremendous amount of honest-to-goodness resolves before we could 'hot copy' Taiwan's production standards and its land reform programs, he added.

Its land reform program has left us a long way envious, since their approaches are not based on the massive redistribution of lands to the landless but on the scientific utilization of lands according to the capability of the tillers, Borinaga stressed, saying that in Taiwan there are still hundreds and thousands of hectares yet still in the hands of one business family and the landless are given their lots strictly on the basis of their capability to produce.

Taiwan's average rice yield of 11,000 kilos about 200 cavans per hectare, for instance, left us wondering how our badly constructed irrigation systems and undeveloped rain-fed areas could feed farmers down to the next cropping cycle, Borinaga stressed.

Just imagine the high industry level of 19 million Taiwanese being now the world's second highest per capita earners after the Americans though their land area is only as big as Zamboanga peninsula, also of the statistical fact that their businessmen are forced to look for investment outlets because about 70 percent of their billions of dollars are sleeping in banks—while some 70 percent of Filipino farmers are just 'sleeping idly' for lack of capital and development know-how, Borinaga said on one briefing occasion he traded some goodwill banter with Taiwan farm economists.

It was learned from Borinaga his current one-hectare sugpo fishpond within MAF's premises is designed as the province's technology showcase for local fishpond farmers and also as MAF's opener to keep Zamboanga del Norte's desire to establish here a training center for Southwestern Mindanao similar to Iloilo's SEAFDEC (Southeast Asia's Fishery Development Center.)

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CSO; 4200/425

1986 COTABATO INCOME DROPS 6.5 PERCENT

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 14 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] The income of Cotabato City in 1986 decreased by P1,292,579.98 or 6.51 per cent compared to that in 1985, it was revealed by City Treasurer Felipe C. Quesada last Thursday.

In 1986, the total revenue collected was P18,563,897.59 as compared to the P19,856,577.57 in 1985. He attributed the decrease mainly to the reduction in the interest rate on time deposit.

Due to the nosediving of interest rate from 41 per cent in 1985 to 12 per cent last year, earnings from time deposited infrastructure funds last year was only P449,402.33 or P1,093,556.64 less than the P1,532,958.97 in 1985.

On its time deposit on public investment, the city earned P792,496.69 in 1986 or P507,495.88 less

than the P1,299,992.57 earned in 1985.

Quesada expects further decrease in earnings from interests this year as the rate has gone down to 6 per cent.

To compensate for this loss in revenue, collections from real property taxes increased by 13 per cent over those in 1985. These, together with other tax revenues brought to the city coffers P700,000 more than in 1985.

Income for infrastructure funds decreased from P7,605,093.66 in 1985 to P5,734,213.50 in 1986, a difference of almost P2 million. This will mean lesser number of infrastructure projects this year, Quesada said.

Incomes from capital assets and for special education fund increased slightly. -- frm.

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CSO: 4200/425

BROADCASTERS MONITOR RURAL COPRA PRICE AGAINST FRAUD

Dipolog City THE MINDANAO OBSERVER in English 16 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] The broadcast media shall be tapped to monitor the daily Southern Island Oil Mills price of copra to avoid defrauding the copra producers of the correct price.

Resolution no. 16 of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan approved last February 11 stated that the constant change in the copra price is prejudicial to the copra producers since some shrewd copra buyers would avail of the change.

Hence, it is therefore important to help the farmers by radio broadcast on the correct price from SIOM.

The resolution was introduced by Kagawad Francisco E. Realiza.

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CSO: 4200/425

DETAILS ON RESUMED COPRA EXPORTS REPORTED

HK181337 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 18 Mar 87 p 2

["Economic Indicator" column: "Copra Values Fall VS. Volume"]

[Text] After two years of impasse, copra exports from the Philippines resumed in 1986. The nearly four-year-old ban on copra exportation was lifted by Executive Order No 9 issued on March 19, 1986, one month after President Corazon C. Aquino was installed into office.

A subsequent flurry of shipments is pointed to as reason for a price recovery on the local market. Total volume shipped out in Copra terms almost doubled in 1986, rising to 2,205,464.36 metric tons (MT) or 94.37 percent from its year-ago aggregate of 1,134,657 MT. Much of the gains came from coconut oil whose tonnage for 1986 reached 1,237,877.84 MT from just 55,499 [figure as printed] MT in the previous year.

The increment in copra meal/cake exports has likewise exceedingly large (83.81 percent)--to 817,641 MT from only 444,828 MT in the past year. Desiccated coconut grew moderately by 10.99 percent from 60,917 MT to 67,612.85 MT. But the volume of exports of coconut shell charcoal and activated carbon remained depressed with a negative growth of 16.59 percent and 0.05 percent from 32,579 MT and 12,157 MT in 1985 to 27,175 MT and 12,150.50 MT in the following year, respectively. Unlike in the years prior to the suspension of its export, the year 1986 saw a smaller West European copra market share. However, except for copra, West Europe and the United States remained the major markets for traditional coconut products such as coconut oil, copra meal/cake and desiccated coconut.

Value, however, did not match the increase in volume, a situation attributed to a glut felt in the world market and competition from lower-priced coconut oil substitutes as indigenous European Economic Community vegetable oils (e.g., rapeseed oil). These oils are subsidized, and, therefore, can be sold at much lower prices than imported coconut oil.

In 1986, coconut oil values further fell--from \$352.033 to \$334.871 FOB. The value of desiccated coconut took a 37.92 percent cut in 1986--from \$72.078 million FOB in 1985 to \$44.748 million. It was only copra cake/meal that made a drastic up-turn (by 104.65 percent) from \$35.918 million FOB to \$73.495 million.

The largest market for desiccated coconut has always been the United States. Out of a total turnover in 1985 of 60,917 MT, the U.S. absorbed 65 percent or 39,566 MT; West Europe had a share of 18.8 percent or 11,461 MT. Other markets took in 9,891 MT. However a shift in market direction was manifested in the first-half period in 1986. From a volume of 30,838 MT, the U.S. share dropped to 44.6 percent or 13,749 MT. In contrast, Western Europe's share improved to 31.9 percent at 9,842 MT and those of the other outlets combined to 23.5 percent at 7,247 MT from last year's 16.2 percent.

Philippine copra meal/cake exports go solely to Western European compounders, mainly the EEC, with the volume increasing in 1986 to 817,641 MT an increment of 83.81 percent from the previous year's 444,828 MT, loaded for the same destination.

Traditional coconut by-products such as coconut shell charcoal and activated carbon are mostly destined for Japan. Out of the 32,579 coconut shell charcoal traded in 1985, Japan received 65 percent or 14,023 MT. Similarly, 6,008 MT activated carbon shipped to Japan accounted for 49.4 percent of the total 12,157 MT. Japan increased its imports of coconut shell charcoal to 90.8 percent at 14,023 MT against the 1986 six-month figure of 15,438 MT. But Japan bought less activated carbon in the same year.

Prices suffered declines, however. Coconut oil prices fell by 49.63 percent--from \$537.05/MT FOB to \$661.83/MT FOB; and coconut shell charcoal, from \$193.74/MT FOB to \$152.08/MT FOB. It was mainly the price of copra cake/meal that took a slight upturn of 11.32 percent from \$80.75/MT FOB in 1985 to \$89.89/MT FOB in the following year.

Despite the price erosions, the volume upturns in 1986 resulted in modest gains in revenue.

Copra Exports

1986 and 1985

1986	Volume (in metric tons)	Value (US\$ FOB)	Average Export Price (\$per MT FOB)
Copra	136,045.36	18,959,160.57	139.36
Coconut oil	1,237,877.84	334,870,901.85	270.52
Desiccated coconut	67,612.85	44,748,312.74	661.83
Copra meal/cake	817,641.00	73,495,316.07	89.89
Coconut shell charcoal	27,175.15	4,132,723.02	152.08
Activated carbon	12,150.50	12,282,556.76	1,010.87
Others (non-traditional)	--	69,578,455.99	--
Total (in copra terms)	2,205,464.36	558,067,427.00	--
1985			
Copra	--	--	--
Coconut oil	655,499	352,033,194	537.05
Desiccated coconut	60,917	72,077,854	1,183.21
Copra meal/cake	444,828	35,917,661	80.75
Coconut shell charcoal	32,579	6,311,791	193.74
Activated carbon	12,157	13,981,312	1,150.06
Others (non-traditional)	--	71,629.958	
Total (in copra terms)	1,134,657	551,951,770	

From 1980 to 1986, exports of coconut oil and desiccated coconut [DCN] are converted into copra terms using the following recovery factors: 63 percent for coconut oil and 64.68 percent for DCN.

Source: Philippine Coconut Authority

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CSO: 4200/426

IMPORT SUPERVISION SCHEME TO INCREASE REVENUE

HK230417 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 20 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Philippine imports from Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong will from April 1 require a clean report from the Swiss inspection company societe Generale de Surveillance (SGS), the finance department said.

Under a new comprehensive import supervision scheme, goods from these countries will not be cleared by the bureau of customs unless they receive a clean report. Preliminary government studies of SGS's operations indicate a potential for substantially increasing customs revenue through the plan, a finance department statement said.

The statement added that SGS will report on the price of imported goods compared with their home consumption value, the quality, quantity and verification of tariff rates, and customs code classifications. The certificates will include details of commissions, discrepancies in pricing and value, and currencies used.

A finance department spokesman said the customs bureau will carry out similar pre-shipment inspections in Singapore, South Korea, Brunei, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand through attaches posted in Philippine embassies.

The SGS certification will also be obligatory for exporters wishing to draw on letters of credit, the statement said.

In a report to President Corazon Aquino, Finance Secretary Jaime Ongpin said the SGS was delayed for more than a year "due to stubborn opposition and lack of cooperation from the bureau of customs." He said it was expected to produce additional revenue of P1.4 billion annually.

"The SGS customs surveillance scheme...is designed to control rampant misclassification and underdeclaration of imports," Ongpin said.

He said customs revenue collections rose by 2.4 percent in 1986 from 1985 levels but fell short of target by 14.7 percent.

The finance department statement said the SGS report will be recommendatory in nature and the final decision will rest with the bureau of customs in order to preclude competition between the bureau and SGS.

"SGS is simply a consultant to the government and its findings can be used by customs to increase revenue and reduce cases of misdeclaration," it said.

Manila's BUSINESS DAY newspaper last month quoted trade and industry undersecretary Tomas Alcantara as saying SGS will be paid 0.065 percent of cost and freight invoice value based on its reports.

Alcantara said the government will put up a revolving fund of 2.5 million Swiss francs in the form of a letter of credit to be opened with Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.

The finance department statement said items exempted from the scheme include orders worth less than \$5,000 fob and imports consigned to the government and its corporations.

The statement said other categories exempted from inspection by SGS are crude oil and petroleum products in bulk and shipments of explosives, ammunition, arms and other strategic materials certified as such by the department of national defense.

It said works of art, precious stones, precious metals, artifacts, newspapers, periodicals, fresh and frozen fish, meat, eggs, fresh, chilled and frozen fruit, individually owned used motor vehicles and parcel post will not require certificates.

/8309

CSO: 4200/426

NEW BUSINESS REGISTRATION POSTS GAINS

HK231221 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 23 Mar 87 p 6

["Economic Indicator" column: "More New Businesses Registered"]

[Text] Despite rumors of coup d'etats, the GMA 7 siege, and the aborted ceasefire peace talks between the government and rebel forces, new businesses set up in the first quarter of the current year more than made up for the dismal record posted in the last two quarters of 1986. As of January 1987, new businesses registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] totaled 184,009, broken down into 141,734 corporations and 42,275 partnerships.

A monthly report of the SEC's investments and research department [IRD] indicates that initial investments burgeoned 136.04 percent to P512.6 million in January from P217.17 million in the corresponding period last year. This figure, the report stated, is 4.4 times the P118.4 million recorded in December of the same year.

Mainly accounting for this remarkable increase were 396 newly formed domestic stock corporations and 95 partnerships which chalked up 99.33 percent of initial capital investments or P509.8 million.

The 396 stock corporations had an aggregate capital of P1,754.9 million with P662.3 million subscribed and P487.9 million paid. The 95 partnerships had an initial paid-up capital of P21.2 million.

By sector, wholesale and retail trade was the top choice for new businesses, totaling 139 establishments-registrants. Of these, 115 went into wholesale trade; 24 opted for retail.

On the basis of capital investments, the manufacturing industry, with only 88 new firms, put in the biggest share at P232 million, representing 45.6 percent of the total. Most of these new funds came from the Automotive Manufacturing Corp. which assembles motor vehicles (initial paid-up, P189 million), and the Milwaukee Industries Corp. which deals in iron and steel manufacture (P20 million).

Foreign involvement in new local businesses was enhanced with the entry of 54 companies with foreign equity compared to only 39 firms registered last December. In terms of capital infusion, however, the IRD report qualifies that this involvement was "luke-warm" since the figure reflects a drop by 32.7 percent to P3.3 million from P4.9 million in December and 47.6 percent from P6.3 million in January 1986.

Chinese were the top foreign investors last January, pumping some P0.8 million into the economy.

Meanwhile, additional investments were recorded from 54 existing domestic stock corporations amounting to P326.3 million. Of the total, P153.7 million was paid in cash and P115.5 million through offset of liabilities. The rest was paid either with stock dividends, property or through mergers.

The financing, insurance, real estate and business services sector turned in the bulk of reinvested capital worth P157.6 million, the biggest share of monthly reinvestments for this industry sector since July 1985. Manufacturing accounted for the second biggest additional investments worth P120.4 million or 36.9 percent of total. Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. was top investor, financing its expansion with additional equity of P90.4 million.

The greater number of 400 new businesses were set up in the national capital region [NCR] with aggregate capital investments of P302.9 million. Makati was the favorite site for new businesses (124 companies with initial investments of P47.6 million), followed by Manila and Quezon City (91; P21 million and 83; P200.9 million).

Outside NCR, 28 newly registered companies were in Southern Tagalog (investment, P192.5 million); Central Luzon and Western Visayas (14 firms each; investment, P3.7 million and P3.4 million); Western Mindanao (6; P452,000); and in other regions (29; P6.2 million).

Number of Newly Registered Corporations and Partnerships With Initial Capital Investments
January to November 1985 and 1986
(Amount in thousand pesos)

	Total		Regional headquarters of multinationals		Stock entities		Non-stock entities	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1986 Jan	657	217,168	--	--	462	211,543	195	5,625
Feb	430	81,360	1	553	301	79,394	128	1,413
Mar	557	78,701	--	--	389	74,654	168	4,047
Apr	581	103,018	3	1,800	416	96,628	162	4,590
May	722	143,575	1	615	531	138,096	190	4,864
Jun	672	132,456	1	614	520	129,037	151	2,805
Jul	833	152,203	--	--	619	149,322	214	2,981
Aug	654	168,410	--	--	477	162,588	177	5,822
Sep	831	155,049	2	1,224	616	150,660	213	3,165
Oct	804	152,752	2	1,226	580	149,252	222	2,274
Nov	672	153,290	--	--	495	150,779	177	2,511
Dec	624	118,355	--	--	423	114,822	201	3,533
1987 Jan	666	512,606	1	615	491	509,179	174	2,812

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission

BRIEFS

OPLE WARNS PARTIES ON FOREIGN SUPPORT--Any political party verified to have received financial support from a foreign government or its agencies and instrumentalities will be subject to deregistration and will be disqualified from the election, under the new Constitution. The warning came from senatorial candidate Blas Ople, who knows what he is talking about since he is one of the framers of the recently ratified Constitution. Ople gave the warning in the face of reports that some unnamed political parties were receiving financial contributions from overseas. In the case of one party, Ople recalled, there was public squabbling about the handling of contributions from foreign sources. [Text] [Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 23 Mar 87] /8309

AQUINO PRAYER FOR BOMBING VICTIMS--Manila, March 18 (AFP)--Philippine President Corazon Aquino interrupted a party at the presidential palace here Wednesday to lead a prayer for the casualties of an explosion at a military school. Mrs. Aquino said the blast at the grandstand of the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio City north of here, which killed four people and injured 39, was a "very unfortunate incident." Standing before a large cake given to Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos, who was celebrating his 59th birthday, Mrs. Aquino led a prayer for the repose of the dead and the speedy recovery of the injured. The party was given for supporters of Mrs. Aquino, who is scheduled to visit Baguio Thursday. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1246 GMT 18 Mar 87] /8309

NPA GUN-GRABBING INCREASE--The NPA rebels have doubled their efforts in their gun-grabbing operations and search for financial aid from the citizens of Pampanga in the past week. Brigadier General Eugenio Ocampo Jr., Recom [Regional Command] 3 chief, told the Bureau of Broadcast Network News that these activities are in preparation for the communists' plan to cause trouble in the May Senate elections. [Begin Ocampo recording in English] The insurgents' activities are now concentrated in Pampanga. Basically, the program for gun grabbing, extortion, and terrorism has been concentrated in Pampanga during the last 2 weeks. Two nights ago they tried to raid the municipal hall of [place indistinct], but the policemen fought back and they were able to kill three of them. In Bulacan they were able to account for four sparrow unit members, including the vice team leader. [end recording] [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0900 GMT 18 Mar 87] /8309

NPA LIQUIDATION LIST--Ranking military officers [words indistinct] said to have been marked for liquidation by the NPA's sparrow unit. This threat was revealed by a member of the NPA's dreaded liquidation squad who is now in military custody. (Inocencio Capa), alias Kumander Romy, was arrested early this month by military and police elements in (Baling), Almar Negros Oriental. (Capa) told his captors about the assassination plan during a (?technical) interrogation after his arrest. He identified the ranking officers marked for liquidation as Colonel Jesus Altuna Jr., region 10 commander; Colonel Alejandro Espiritu who is the provincial commander of Misamis Oriental, and one Colonel Dizon, army commander of Bukidnon. [Text] [Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 19 Mar 87] 8309

REBELS SURRENDER IN VISAYAS--More than 200 rebel surrenderees of (?3) provinces in Western Visayas have availed themselves of the services that the government [words indistinct]. According to the regional office of the Department of Local Services and Development in Iloilo City, the former rebels received benefits in housing, food, and clothing allowances, as well as assistance for livelihood projects as [words indistinct] rebel returnee program. A total of 49 surrenderees in the town of Lemery, Iloilo have availed themselves of the various allowances. About 71,000 pesos have been released for livelihood projects of 79 returnees in the towns of Sebaste and Pandan, both in Antique. [Text] [Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 0700 GMT 19 Mar 87] /8309

WORLD BANK APPROVES LOANS--The World Bank has approved two loans for the Philippines totalling \$310 million to assist its economic recovery. In a [words indistinct], the bank noted that [words indistinct] the Philippine economy has been beset by both domestic and external events which have slowed economic growth and lowered the standards of living for most Filipinos. The World Bank said the largest of the two loans is a \$300 million loan designed to support (?changes) in four areas (?the) present administration has identified for immediate action. The second loan for \$10 million will provide technical assistance to help the government undertake required financial restructuring of private sector institutions. The \$300 million loan will be disbursed in three equal installments over two years, with the first available immediately. The \$10 million loan will be disbursed within 36 months. [Text] [Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 0300 GMT 18 Mar 87] /8309

SEVEN NPA IN NEGROS CAPTURED--Policemen in Bais City have captured seven members of the sparrow unit, the NPA's liquidation squad. A Constabulary report said the seven rebels were arrested on board a passenger bus bound for Dumaguete City. The report said the seven were identified as a PC [Philippine Constabulary] soldier who was also riding in the same bus. Confiscated from the rebels were a fragmentation grenade and five knives. [Text] [Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 0200 GMT 23 Mar 87] /8309

CSO: 4200/426

THAILAND

EDITORIAL SEES FAILURE OF REAGAN FOREIGN POLICY

Bangkok KHAO PHISET in Thai 22-28 Dec 86 pp 6, 7

[Editorial by Dr Pricha Piamphongsan, KHAO PHISET, 13 December 1986: "The End of U.S. Foreign Policy"]

[Text] From the attack on Libya at the beginning of the year to the secret operation to sell weapons to Iran and divert funds to the Contra rebels, it is clear that the foreign policy of President Reagan has ended in failure. The United States does not understand why people throughout the world have come to detest the United States. U.S. foreign policy has become more and more involved with international terrorism. The United States refuses to understand that terrorism against American citizens has very deep roots. But what is clear is that the United States feels that terrorism must be fought using terrorist methods. But this will only harm U.S. interests and destroy the lofty ideals of those who founded the United States. In the end, the United States will sink into the endless suffering of terrorism. It even sent weapons to a country that the United States once charged with supporting terrorism. By giving money earned from the sale of these weapons to the Contras, who are underlings of the United States, the United States is itself supporting terrorism.

Today, the United States has just two choices. It can continue along the path of terrorism until there is widespread destruction, or it can revise its foreign policy in order to have a more constructive policy capable of promoting world peace. There are no other choices.

In order to bring about a change, it is necessary to look back and determine what mistakes were made in formulating U.S. policy. It can be seen that in the Middle East, the United States has interfered in the internal affairs of Iran, Lebanon, and Libya. This has turned the United States into an enemy of the people in the Muslim world.

In Central America and South Africa, the United States has supported corrupt dictatorships that have oppressed the people. It has insanely opposed the countries in the Soviet camp.

In Europe, instead of promoting an arms reduction, the United States has installed almost 1,000 missiles of various types in five NATO countries. This has increased the risk of nuclear war. It has done this amidst protests by millions of people and the growth of the anti-American movement.

In Haiti and the Philippines, President Reagan now supports a "third force." In the past, he had great praise for the dictatorships but finally had to allow them to collapse.

In the view of the United States, the real crime of Duvalier and Marcos was not that they were dictators but that they were too weak. If these people had been able to control the situation, Reagan would still be praising them.

If a country is an ally of the United States but the people there oppose the United States, the United States views the opposition as terrorists and feels that they must be suppressed using military force in order to defend the "Free World."

Toward socialist countries and countries that do not agree with the United States, the United States acts like an "international terrorist." It uses a variety of methods to topple the government in those countries.

It isn't necessary to say much about Thailand. Everyone knows that the United States dictates Thailand's foreign policy.

The United States has made many other mistakes. This is because its foreign policy is wrong. The important question is, why is this? There are several reasons. One important reason is that American leaders confuse "power" with the "use of force." They have mixed "emotion" with "reasonable thinking." What is important is that the United States views the world in a simplistic manner. It views the world in terms of a conflict between the "Free World" and the "communist world."

In particular, the Soviet specter appears whenever the United States formulates a policy. "The enemy of the United States is the Soviet Union." This feeling is deeply embedded in the minds of American leaders. The Soviet Union is viewed as an "evil empire" that is always ready to stir up trouble on the world political stage. The changes that have taken place in the world are all viewed as being the work of the Soviet Union. With such a view, there is little chance of these people understanding the reality of world politics.

As for why such a policy has been formulated, some of the American people support this and feel that the United States must show its power in the struggle against evil. They feel that the "United States is the symbol of good." But actually, this policy has come into being as a result of becoming lost (in the shadow of power) and as a result of fear and mob chauvinism.

In formulating such a policy, there is no such thing as "truth." There are only tricks and lies. The talk about good and evil is just a lie. Facts are concealed or data are not disclosed. This, too, is part of the lie.

In the most recent case, that is, the sale of weapons and diversion of funds to a terrorist group, it is clear that lying is the highest principle in American foreign policy. The people have discovered the lie. But Reagan and his Cold War warriors will probably remain in power. The American people won't say much more, because this is just a "mistake," one of a long list of mistakes.

This is an indication of the "loss of consciousness" of the American people. This is an important root of the rise of neofascism. The same trend was apparent when the German people welcomed Hitler and followed him into the abyss.

In formulating a foreign policy in today's complex political world, policy makers cannot rely on dreams, tricks, and lies. Political reality that is based on unbiased data is the important factor for achieving success. Otherwise, international politics will be dominated by military confrontation, the use of force, and destruction, which is the case today.

The important thing is that the United States is not the only country in the world. Other countries, too, have the right to play a role on the world political stage. The United States must respect the rights and interests of other countries. Is there any chance of U.S. leaders experiencing a "change in consciousness" about this?

People who refuse to face the truth are like people in a cave. Their truth is the shadow of reality. What concerns us about Thailand is that our leaders are loyally following the United States along the path of President Reagan's dark foreign policy.

11943

CSO: 4207/100

BUNCHU DISCUSSES OBJECTIVES, POTENTIAL IN LAO TRADE

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 25-30 Dec 86 pp 18, 19

[Speech by Bunchu Rotchanasathian, the leader of the Community Action Party and chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee, at Chulalongkorn University on 19 December: "What Is the Objective of Thai-Lao Trade?"]

[Text] Mr Bunchu Rotchanasathian, the leader of the Community Action Party, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee, and one of the important economic figures in the country, was invited by the Security and International Studies Institute, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University, to come speak on the topic "Thai-Lao Economic Relations, Scope and Limitations" on the afternoon of 19 December. SU ANAKHOT feels that this speech makes important points and so we are printing it here.

This seminar is being held at a very appropriate time. There are several reasons for saying this. First, trade protectionism is now spreading and threatening the developing countries. The government now realizes that it cannot entrust the economy to just one country. Second, the government is expanding economic relations between Thailand and Laos. This must be done carefully and seriously. Matters must be studied in depth. Third, the people with administrative power have begun to look at the nation's interests and have begun to realize that economic security is of paramount importance. This is why I said that this seminar is being held at a very appropriate time.

Since 1975, a period of 11 years, political and economic relations between Thailand and Laos have not been good. We have viewed Laos as a serious threat to our security. Consequently, we have given up economic benefits in the interest of security.

In the past, our view was that politics led economics. We closed our eyes and attached ourselves to the Free World power. We followed the ass of the great power of the Free World, forgetting that every country wants security and that no country wants to be the slave of someone else. During these past 11 years, Thai-Lao relations have not been good. But the United States has moved ahead and coordinated its political and economic interests. Unlike Thailand, it has not followed the politics leads economics line. For example, trade relations have been established between the United States and China, between the United

States and the Soviet Union, and between China and the Soviet Union. This should serve to open the eyes of a country that has followed a politics-only policy.

Thai officials claim that we have always maintained trade relations with Laos. If that is true, then we have to ask why our trading partner, Laos, has had a greater volume of trade with Vietnam, Singapore, and Japan than with us. In view of the fact that the government has placed politics above trade and taken a narrow view of security, merchants have not dared invest in trade with Laos on a permanent basis. This claim did not talk about the economy expanding. The old views, like SEATO, were all obstacles. For example, designating 273 items as war materials as announced by the Ministry of Commerce was a very outmoded idea. During the period 1980-1985, the value of trade between Thailand and Laos was between 500 and 1,000 million baht. The government made no attempt to expand trade. Thus, the figures fluctuated up and down. During the period 1982-1986, the value of sales of such goods as glutinous rice, sweetened condensed milk, bicycles, and sarongs declined. And if we factor in the devaluation of the baht, the decline was even greater. And Thailand imported only 40 million baht worth of goods from Laos. Fortunately, we have continued to purchase 800-900 million baht worth of electricity from Laos each year. This has given Laos enough purchasing power to buy some goods from us.

We have not adjusted our policy during these 11 years. It is clear that Vietnam has pulled Laos, which used to be a fraternal neighbor of ours, into its arms even though Vietnam is very poor itself. The fact that we have forced Laos to depend on Vietnam economically is a great loss.

I do not feel that simply increasing the number of trade checkpoints, simplifying the export regulations, increasing the authority of the provincial governors, and reducing the number of items on the list of war materials is the right way to solve this problem. We must join together and invest in developing the natural resources of Laos. I believe that we can do this. We have sufficient technology to invest in Laos. Laos has many mineral resources. We can bring out large quantities. This view seems to go against the security view. Why would we help strengthen the enemy? I think that we must reconsider this. We must not evaluate the situation using old ideas, such as the idea that Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia are enemies of Thailand. If such ideas still exist, then let those people return to the previous decade.

The United States and Europe are investing in China. There used to be very little investment there, but now investments, such as fast foods, have expanded greatly. Both sides have benefited. This has occurred even though their political ideals are very different. Even though they have different political strategies, they have not refrained from engaging in activities to bring profits into the country.

What we must do is provide Laos with as many facilities, such as railroad lines and roads, as possible. It is generally accepted that there is no better way than to upgrade the importance of trade. If this is done, there won't be any need to hold seminars or waste time talking. I would like to point out the following:

1. If we want to build friendly relations with Laos, we must have a clear position on how large the volume of trade is to be. Our views on economic matters and foreign relations must be clear. We won't have just trade relations. They are poor. There must be economic relations of real significance. This is a long path. We must state our position clearly. We must allow our trading partner to participate, too. If we try to stipulate everything, no one will trade with us. That is, we have to trade on the basis of equality. We have to consider the problems of Laos and the Lao people. We have to determine what those problems are and how Thailand can help.

They are trying to build a country that is still very poor. They need to expand and increase revenues. They need to be able to stand on their own feet. These are the things that Laos needs. If we want to increase trade with Laos, we must play a role in increasing their purchasing power. We must do this by finding a way to cooperate with them economically.

2. If we want to improve relations by opening up routes through Thailand, we must consider whether those routes are ready. I think that the Mekong River can be developed to facilitate transportation and provide an opening to the sea. This will benefit both Laos and Thailand. Laos has frequently said that it wants the Mekong River to be a river of peace.

3. We must also help open routes for Laos from the standpoint of geography if we want to establish fraternal relations with them. We shouldn't force Laos to open the door to Vietnam, which is tantamount to forcing Laos into the arms of Vietnam.

4. Some people may be concerned by the fact that one limitation of Laos is that it is still under the influence of Vietnam and is not free to establish relations with Thailand. I am sure that remaining under the influence of Vietnam is not the long-term objective of Laos. But when China and Thailand isolated Laos, Laos had to turn to Vietnam. And so it fell under Vietnam's influence. That was a necessity. I am sure that no country wants to remain under the control of another country forever. History confirms this.

I have said this in order to make people understand that even though Laos is under the influence of Vietnam, we should try to loosen the knot. For example, we should invest in Laos. That would give Laos another choice. In the end, Laos will be Laos. It will no longer be under the influence of another country.

Foreign policy must be flexible. It must change according to the situation. The minister has stood in one place too long. Foreign affairs is like chess. It's time for us to bend with the wind.

5. Finally, we must look to the future. We must always remember that when we take a new political path, we can't take action unilaterally. Laos is under various constraints mandated by a foreign country. These are limitations that we must overcome on the path of [improving] relations. There will always be problems to solve. But if we act resolutely and carefully, I am sure that we will reach the summit.

CSO: 4207/100

THAILAND

EVOLUTION OF SOUTHERN MUSLIM SEPARATIST GROUP, SUPPRESSION

Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai 7 Dec 86 pp 13-15, 44

[Article by Kampanat Wintawirot: "The Pattani Mujahidin"]

[Text] The 4th Army Region recently disclosed that there have been reports about the founding of a new bandit terrorist group called the Mujahidin Movement. But there are few details about this and so the truth of this is open to doubt.

People who have followed the news have heard this name before. For example, this name is prominent in the Middle East, such as in Lebanon and northern Afghanistan, where the Mujahidin have been resisting foreign troops for many years.

Actually, the bandit terrorists have used this name in Thailand prior to this. They used this with the initial insignia of the Singha Mas 4 W, which people claim demanded protection money from villagers as the representative of the BNPP (Barisan Nasional Pembebasan Patani), whose main headquarters is located in the state of Kelantan. After changing their appearance and name to this movement at the beginning of 1973, they used the name only a short time. After the form of the "Singha Khon Hua Yung" was changed and the forms used to demand money were improved, this word disappeared.

Several years later, the word was used again in propaganda leaflets distributed by the "Revolutionary Movement for the Southern Malay Fatherland," or PARNAS (Patani Islam Revolusi Nasional Slatan Siam). Mr Yuso Chapakiya established this group and served as leader. The group withdrew from Thailand and set up its headquarters in the state of Kedah, Thailand's former Saiburi Circle.

Around the middle of April 1980, Mr Yuso sent members of his group to distribute these leaflets in Thailand. They crossed into Thailand on the night of 14 April. (It should be noted that the bandit terrorists like to stir up trouble around the time of Songkhran and other traditional Thai festivals.) This group of bandit terrorists put up posters at the market in Nathawi District, Songkhla Province, and set off bombs just before they fled. Property was damaged, but no one was injured. The police pursued them and arrested two men.

Almost 1 year later, the Military District 1 court (Songkhla Province) issued its verdict. Even though there was insufficient evidence to prove that the two defendants were members of PARNAS, because they had leaflets in their possession and had posted leaflets in public places where people could easily see them, the court decided that the two defendants had tried to incite the people to rebellion in order to separate the country in accord with the plans and objectives of this movement. They were found guilty of engaging in activities harmful to the internal and external security of the state. Based on the provisions of the Criminal Code, they were sentenced to 15 years in prison. But because they had confessed, their sentences were reduced to 10 years in prison.

On the day that I went to testify in this case, the court questioned me about the establishment and activities of PARNAS. I focused on its policies and chief objectives and mentioned the leader and insignia. The court asked me to examine the leaflets in order to confirm whether they were put out by PARNAS.

The defense lawyer saw the word Mujahidin above a picture of a "moon holding a star" sitting above the head of a bird (which did not resemble an eagle, which they said it was supposed to be) with wings spread wide. And at the bottom were four words that can be translated as "power," "strength," "seize," and "build," which is the motto of PARNAS. I was pressured to explain the meaning of these words.

When the investigator contacted me and asked for my testimony, all he said was that the court wanted to learn about the activities of PARNAS. He did not bring a leaflet for me to look at. And he was not interested in that either.

I could remember hearing that just once before. And so all I could say was that I was not sure. I had heard that they used these words in reference to Muslims who did not have any definite place to live and who wandered here and there. This was probably not a name or important point. And before that, they had used the words in threatening letters.

That was all that I knew about the Mujahidin. I never thought that I would encounter this again at a time when I couldn't get to the bottom of the matter or ask someone to clarify matters.

From what I understand, in the past, the people in these villages had to struggle and fight to survive. Later generations referred to them as wandering fighters. Their behavior was similar to that of "guerrillas," and they used methods similar to those of the communists, who have become quite well known in recent times. Thus, the Muslims who were working on behalf of their country using similar methods took this as the name of their group.

However, it is clear that a bandit terrorist group with this name has come into being. It was formed in order to carry on its own special activities on the "alftoni" front. It does not have ties with movements of the same name in other regions of the world.

From statements that they have made, they refer to their organization as the Barisan Bersatu Mujahidin Pattani, which is often shortened to Mujahidin Pattani.

They have said that the movement was formed on 1 Muharam 1406, which is 16 September 1985 using our calendar. A headquarters has been established at Ban Payi in Kota Bahru, Kelantan State, Malaysia.

Later on, there were reports that about 40 prominent bandit terrorists held a meeting around the middle of 1985. They agreed to work together and form a new movement that would be more modern and stronger than previous movements. They agreed on the principles and stipulated regulations. This was how this organization came into being.

The organization held its first conference at the beginning of January 1986. But after the conference was convened, a serious conflict arose about appointments to positions based on the new regulations. The various factions wanted the positions for themselves and so the meeting ended unsuccessfully. Another meeting was held in April. This time, the various factions were able to reach a compromise.

As for the regulations of this organization, according to a mimeographed paper distributed to those attending the January conference, the articles are similar to those of PULO's constitution. There are only 14 articles, 2 fewer than in PULO's constitution, but there are more items. The seven items are: name, policy, and objectives; national flag, insignia, and motto; organizational structure and duties; Suro council; membership and appointments; finances; and rules, regulations, and correction.

Article 1 discusses the name of the organization, both the full name and the shortened version as mentioned above. Article 5 discusses the national flag, which uses the popular "3 color" system. The article states that the "flag is composed of red, white, green, white, and red stripes. There is a drawing on the flag, too. Each of the stripes is of equal width. Article 6 concerns the insignia. Strangely, it does not use the image of an animal or location. Instead, it uses the movement's initials, BBMP. I can't reproduce these letters, which are somewhat bigger than ordinary letters and which have greater detail, in order to show you what they look like. Article 7 mentions the motto, "The Mighty Allah," which is stranger than that of other organizations.

The important item is item three, which discusses organizational structure and duties. There are two administrative councils:

The Mujahidin Council (Presidium). This is composed of the heads of the 13 sections. However, others may be appointed, too. Each section head has a secretary. These serve in the Office of the Mujahidin Secretary.

The other is the Provincial Mujahidin Council. This is composed of the 65 zonal chiefs in Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, Satun, and Songkhla provinces. Subordinate to this council are the Office of the Secretary and the district, subdistrict, and village Mujahidin offices.

The duties and responsibilities of these two councils have been clearly stipulated. The section heads and Office of the Secretary have been kept separate.

Item 4, which is similar to Article 9, discusses the "Suro Council." This is composed of members of the Mujahidin Council, the Office of the Mujahidin Secretary, and zonal Mujahidin. This is a special case separate from the other organizations. It has major responsibilities. For example, it functions as a supreme court and can dismiss an administrative member. Its peculiar methods are very complex.

There is nothing else that is of much importance. The major point seems to be the appointment of section heads as mentioned in Article 8. This is a problem that has not really been solved. A news source stated that there are just two sections.

The most important person is the administrative head, or senior person among the section heads as mentioned above. Since the beginning, the important person has been Usta Abdul Rahman Mufti. He is a native of Panare District in Pattani Province. He studied religion in Indonesia and returned and opened a ponoh school in Ban Pho Ming, Panare District. He became a leader and was called "usta," or teacher. He was also called "Datu Khru Pho Ming." He was one of the key figures behind the large protest demonstration held in front of the Pattani provincial administrative headquarters at the end of 1975.

Two days later, at around 1945 hours on 13 December, a datu from this office was killed in an explosion while addressing a crowd of people using a microphone. This led to an attack on officials and built the reputation of this office. Many young men from the village and nearby areas were mobilized to join units under the leadership of the bandit terrorist Kuso Chemango, or Pho Ming, who achieved rather spectacular results. This was a large group subordinate to the "Phayanak Unit." About 2-3 years later, these two well-known men fled to Malaysia, where they live today. Datu Khru is well known in that country by the name "Al Mufti."

One of the deputies of the administrative head is Mr Waesama Bin Waeyuso, who is a native of Yarang District, Pattani Province. He once coordinated things between an outside national liberation unit and a domestic national liberation unit during the period of Angkatan Datu, which later changed its name to BNPP.

The military head is Usta Abdul Karim Bin Hansan, who has been a senior person in the bandit terrorist movement. His father is from an area along the border between Muang and Nong Chik districts in Pattani Province. He fled from Thailand during the period of the rebellion by Tunku Ambul Kadar. He settled down in Kedah State. Thus, he has many friends from his school days in that

country, including politicians who are doing well today. He entered Thailand initially as a religious instructor.

Shortly after that, that is, in 1963, he and Mr Yuso Chapakiya established the PARNAS Party. He held the position of "section head." About 2-3 years later, there was a "yadi," and he joined the Angkatan Datu, or national liberation movement of Tunku Yala. He served as an advisor to Por Ye, the commander.

In 1971, Por Ye reestablished his headquarters outside the country. Most of the advisors placed their confidence in Indonesia's President Sukarno and so they split away and assembled elsewhere. They formed a large group known as the "Khao Ipanae Community."

Later on, Por Su joined this group and became the leader. The movement became known as the Barisan Pembebasan Republik Pattani. It carried on activities until the middle of 1975, when Por Su had a change of heart and surrendered together with almost all his subordinates. Thus, this man became the leader of those who remained. They changed the name of the group to Barisan Revolusi Nasional, which was popularly called the BRN.

He once received an invitation from the PLO to go observe military operations in order to make improvements and carry on similar operations in Thailand. However, it turned out that that organization was not able to provide any help.

Later on, the leader, or party general secretary rarely had anything to do with the military unit in Thailand. Instead, he entrusted a close friend, whom he referred to as the "pho luk on gunman," with his duties. The name of this man was Mapiya Sadawa. He was a native of Muang District, Pattani Province. He had fled into the jungle at the time of the arrest of Mr Min Datu Mina. And he once served on the advisory team of Por Ye. He was given the name "Mustamae." About 5-6 years ago, he became the general secretary of the BRN. His followers called him Por Mus. Thus, the name Abdul Karim was not heard for a long time. His name has cropped up again just recently. He is playing an important role again in this organization. He is a very talented person.

His assistant is Mr Ma Abdul Bin Abdul Rahman. He is from Mayo District in Pattani Province. He became well known under the name Ma Mayo. He played a part in that major protest demonstration and became an important figure in PULO. In the end, he, too, left the country in accord with "tradition."

Mr Min Datu Mina has been appointed finance chief. All that a news source said about this was the "original head of the BRN finance section." I would like to add that Mr Min Datu Mina is the heir of Mr Surong, who once served as chairman of the Pattani Provincial Islamic Committee and "head of the internal affairs unit" during the time of GAMPAR, a movement that had been established by Tunku Ma Haiyiddin Bin Tunku Komaruddin, and who was arrested and sentenced to 7 years in prison. Later on, he was eulogized by the bandit terrorists as the "father of the Pattani National Liberation Movement." His son has carried on the father's ideals. He held the position of "senior head of the domestic liberation movement" in accord with the "plan to establish the

Malay State of Pattani," or Angkatan Datu, which Tunku Yala Naser built from GAMPAR. Por Su and Por Ye were the number 2 and 3 men respectively. He was arrested and tried. But the prosecutor withdrew the charge as requested by the Ministry of Interior, which lost the case when the witnesses were questioned even before the court rendered a verdict.

When he turned to politics, he was elected MP twice. And he served as secretary to the minister of interior as a reward from officials. He then switched paths and took the position of chairman of the Islamic Committee like his father. He was not liked by certain officials, because huge sums of money were donated by Arabs. This was the case even though it was claimed that he used the money for religious purposes in his capacity as chairman of the Islamic Committee.

Then on 10 August 1978, police officials from Narathiwat Province found 200 metal hat seals of the BRN packed in a box. They had been sent by mail from Karachi, Pakistan, through someone in Kelantan State. The box had been placed beneath the rear seat in a taxi. The driver said that it belonged to a passenger who was identified as a member of the provincial council from Yarang District, Pattani Province. He also worked at a trading company at the district market. Mr Min was the major shareholder and chairman of the board of this company. The local police were notified and asked to search his house and store. They found a BRN seal, which was used to stamp documents, in the desk of the manager, a nephew of Mr Min, who had helped this man and sent him abroad to study and who hoped that he would someday run for MP in Pattani. Charges were filed against both men.

During the interrogation of the first suspect, the suspect confessed that he had believed the words of Mr Abdul Karim and so he had joined the BRN about 9 years ago. His job was to recruit other members and provide reinforcements for the military operations units in the jungle. He also volunteered to serve as an "intelligence agent" for a government unit. On the day that this happened, he had received an order from his chief at the company to go pick up the seals in order to distribute them to military units. In this case, besides the police officials who made the arrest and filed charges, the only other person involved was the taxi driver, who served as a witness during the investigation.

Almost 3 years later, that is, on 30 July 1981, after questioning the witness and examining the documents, the Bangkok Military Court issued a 46-page decision. It found the defendants guilty and sentenced them to life in prison. Because he had confessed during the investigation, although not during the trial, one suspect had his sentence reduced to 25 years in prison.

In the wake of this arrest and trial, Mr Min disappeared and has not been seen in Thailand since. On 25 June 1980, he announced the formation of a new organization called the PEKTIIP. Its headquarters was located in Karachi. Thai Muslim youths from the south like to go study in Karachi. The structure of the organization was outlined, and the names of the people holding positions were announced. But it did not engage in any activities and faded away just like previous organizations. After that, Mr Min returned to Malaysia and helped found a new organization and took the position mentioned above.

One of his assistants is Mr Akroni Bin Abdul Rahman, the son of Datu Khru Padaeru, who is from Yaha District in Yala Province. He became very well known just recently. He attended the University of Malaysia and was one of the leaders of the demonstrators protesting the visit to Malaysia by the prime minister of Thailand. He also published the journal SUARA SISWA (STUDENT VOICES), which printed propaganda articles and articles attacking the Thai government and Thai officials. Today, he is one of the rising political stars in the area where he attended school.

Besides this, Mr Suding Bin Abdul Salleh holds the position of treasurer. He is from Saiburi District, Pattani Province. When he was still a child, he moved to Kelantan State when his father fled the political turmoil. His older brother continued to live in southern Thailand and held a rather prominent position in political circles here, serving as an MP and now as mayor for two terms. He did not become well known until after the death of Tunku Yala Naser, when he became a BNPP leader. But he had such little prestige that the group eventually dissolved. However, this man continued to serve as a (secret) advisor to a large school in Thailand. This school had approximately 3,000 students from throughout the south. This school was popular, because after graduating from here, students had a chance to go study abroad.

Besides the people already mentioned, little is known about the other 11 section heads and secretaries. There may still be conflicts among these people. They may not have been able to reach an agreement. This resembles the appointment of ministers in certain countries. The people participating in the discussions come from various organizations that are now defunct. This is like a cabinet composed of people from several parties. However, they really have little prestige left. From what I have heard, members of PULO, which was dissolved last year, don't dare return to Thailand. This includes Tunku Bira Kotanila, Kabir Abdul Rahman, and the heads of the military units.

Although the movement was formed almost a year ago now, it has not engaged in any activities or carried on any military operations. But people should not ignore this organization. It may take the same path as PULO, which did not feel that it was "ready" to begin engaging in operations until 5-6 years after the organization was established. They achieved very good results (from their standpoint). They caused a lot of trouble for a long time. It took a long time and much money to suppress this group. Many government officials and other people were killed or wounded and much property was destroyed.

Thus, it is hoped that the "people directly responsible" don't ignore this matter and allow this organization to grow to the point where it is able to stir up trouble in a replay of history, disrupt the lives of the people who live along the southern border, and threaten the stability of this region, the inheritance of the Thai people.

11943

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ROLE OF POLITICAL TASK IN ECONOMIC MISSIONS DISCUSSED

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[Article by Lt Gen Nguyen Nam Khanh: "The Party-Political Work in the Production Labor and Economic Construction Missions"]

[Text] In order to contribute, along with the entire party and population, victoriously fulfill the two strategic missions of building and defending the fatherland, the army must continually increase its fighting strength, while also actively participating in production labor and economic construction. With regard to that mission, the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress pointed out that "It is necessary to organize the units so that they have conditions for producing to meet part of their needs, while mobilizing national defense industry capabilities to participate in appropriate economic activities and use some forces to construct a number of projects."(1)

Our army participates in production labor not only to resolve some of the difficulties regarding its living conditions and reduce the national defense budget, but also to contribute to building the economic-technical bases of socialism. That is a great political mission and a matter with many new contents which demands that the army have knowledge of production science and economic management, organization ability, and many kinds of material-technical bases.

In the very urgent situation of combat readiness and combat in recent years our army, strictly implementing the resolutions of the party and the directives of the state, has positively carried out its production labor and economic construction missions and has attained definite results in the missions assigned it, begun to provide cadres and enlisted men the technical and economic management knowledge, and has gained experience. However, in general the necessary bases for fulfilling those great missions are still deficient and weak, economic effectiveness is still low, and the results that have been attained have not corresponded to the capital, labor, equipment, and materials that have been invested.

In the process of strictly carrying out the production labor and economic construction missions in addition to the other tasks, the party-political work at all levels has emphasized ensuring full understanding of the army's production labor and economic construction missions and has gradually enabled

the cadres, enlisted men, and national defense workers and civil servants to have increasingly deeper knowledge of and combine more and more closely the relationships between the two strategic missions, between the economy and national defense, and between production labor and combat readiness.

The party-political work has increasingly entered deeply into the specific production and economic construction missions of each unit, has been concerned with enabling the cadres and enlisted men to fully understand the economic viewpoints and policies of the party and state, and has had increasingly rich activity forms which are appropriate to such categories as leading management and command cadres, technical and professional cadres, people engaged directly in production labor, etc.

In many units the party-political work has been concerned with, by means of and in combination with the production labor and economic construction missions, creating the new man and building strong leadership, command, economic management, and mass organizations, and regards that as a basic factor in victoriously fulfilling the production labor and economic construction missions in each unit.

However, in the process of fulfilling the missions weaknesses have been revealed in the party-political work. Especially, it has not yet enabled cadres, enlisted men, workers, and civil servants to be profoundly aware of the relationship between the two strategic missions, fully developed a sense of political responsibility, or firmly grasped the goals of the army's economic work. In units specializing in carrying out economic construction missions, because of pressure to fulfill production norms adequate attention has not been paid to raising the units' level of combat readiness and combat. The units specializing in fulfilling combat readiness and combat missions often do not have full awareness of the production labor mission, and do not realize that that is a political mission of the unit, so the management of production labor is still more or less labor-intensive and little attention is paid to economic effectiveness.

The leadership work of the basic party organizations in the production and economic construction units still have many weaknesses, such as regarding lightly their function of overseeing the implementation of missions and utilizing the results of the units' production labor in accordance with the viewpoints and principles of the party. The management of cadres and party members in some basic party organizations, especially with regard to party members who are leading cadres and party members in charge of tasks related to materials, finance, etc., is not yet tight. Many basic party organizations have not yet positively taken the initiative in carrying out the party development work in the process of fulfilling their production labor and economic construction missions. The mass organizations have not yet developed their role in mobilizing and organizing the masses to endeavor to attain high effectiveness and high quality in production labor, as well as in cultivating the new socialist man. The party-political work activities have not yet entered deeply into the scientific-technical, economic management, production labor, and other activities.

On the basis of the actual production labor situation in the units in recent years, and of the new requirements that have been posed for the army's production labor and economic construction missions, it is possible to raise several basic matters about the party-political work in the production labor and economic construction units.

First of all, when fulfilling the foremost missions of combat readiness and combat to solidly defend the socialist Vietnamese fatherland, it is necessary to stress the production and economic construction missions.

In the enterprise of building and defending the fatherland, with regard to the people's army, maintaining combat readiness and fighting to defend the fatherland are the most important, basic missions. Production labor and economic construction are also basic, long-range missions of our army. production labor, economic construction, and positively contributing to the enterprise of building socialism are political responsibilities of the army itself. All cadres and enlisted men no matter whether in units specializing in fulfilling economic construction missions or in units specializing in fulfilling combat readiness and combat missions, must profoundly understand the close relationships between the two strategic missions and between the enterprise of strengthening national defense to defend the fatherland and the mission of economic construction and building the material-technical bases of socialism, fully understand the army's missions of production labor and economic construction, and fulfill well the missions that are assigned.

In the army, each type of unit has a specific political mission, but all units must clearly acknowledge their production labor missions, on the basis of which to have appropriate forms and measures, resolve well the mission between training and combat readiness on the one hand and production labor on the other hand, and victoriously fulfill the unit's production labor mission.

With regard to the economic construction units, the party-political work must enable the entire unit, each element as well as all cadres, enlisted men, specialized military personnel, and national defense workers and civil servants, to be profoundly aware that the primary missions of the unit are production labor and economic construction, and that combat readiness and combat are important missions. Therefore, all activities of the party-political work must be intended to enable the unit as a whole, as well as each individual, to fulfill as well as possible the production and economic construction plans and norms assigned by the upper echelon, while doing a good job of fulfilling the combat readiness training plans, fighting the enemy, depending property in the areas in which they are stationed. When ordered to go into combat, all individuals and organizations must fulfill their missions well.

With regard to the combat readiness and combat missions, production labor is also an important political mission that is intended to both contribute to maintaining and improving the living conditions of the troops and contribute practically to building up the on-the-spot rear services and the local economies to create a basis for political, national defense, and security construction in the areas in which the troops are stationed. Therefore, it is necessary to do a good job of combining the combat readiness plan and the

production plan and fulfilling the combat readiness and combat missions, while also doing a good job of fulfilling the unit's production labor mission.

The units operating in the important strategic areas, whether fulfilling combat readiness or economic construction missions, must pay all-out attention to combining combat readiness with production labor and economic construction, while also participating positively in building up the local political, social, and economic bases. The units participating in the cooperative economic programs with Laos and Cambodia must firmly grasp the diplomatic line and international viewpoints of the party and regard production labor and economic construction in those countries as one of the important, indispensable missions in consolidating the militant alliance between the people and armies of the three Indochinese countries. In fulfilling that mission, it is necessary to cooperate closely with our friends, study and assist one another, be concerned with protecting our friends' long-range economic interests, and not, because of present requirements, waste their natural resources, for protecting the natural resources of one country benefits all three countries.

Second, the basic viewpoints of the party regarding economic construction and management must be manifested in both thought and action.

As is the case with regard to the state production and economic bases, the military units fulfilling production and economic construction missions, especially the economic construction units, must firmly grasp and correctly apply the economic viewpoints of our party and state, for that has decisive significance with regard to the fulfillment of missions in correct accordance with the political and economic lines of the party.

The cadres and enlisted men must be enabled to understand the goals of productivity, quality, and economic effectiveness correctly and fully. Our army fulfills production labor and economic construction to produce social products in order to meet its consumption needs and technical equipment needs, and contribute to meeting part of the need for export and consumer goods. In that sphere, the national defense enterprises play a rather important role. Therefore, building up and developing the national defense industry is not only a strategic matter in the enterprise of consolidating national defense but is a rather important matter in economically developing and industrializing the nation. Because of the new, rather demanding requirements of the production labor and economic construction missions, the army must firmly grasp technology and must know how to organize production and economic management. Labor must have technical means and all-out efforts must be made to fulfill the requirements of productivity, quality, and economic effectiveness. Those requirements must be manifested in producing increasingly larger quantities of products with increasingly better quality and lower production costs, meet the needs of combat, production and life, and contribute as positively as possible to stabilizing the economic situation and living conditions, and strengthen the nation economically and with regard to national defense. Productivity, quality, and economic effectiveness must also be manifested in using those products as effectively as possible and contributing positively to increasing the unit's fighting strength and improving the troops' living conditions. Therefore, it is necessary to

evaluate economic effectiveness in a combined manner, including economic effectiveness and the political, military, and national defense influences, the short-range and long-range benefits, and the national and international benefits. High economic effectiveness is a mission and a goal that must be attained, but organization must also be strong and individuals must increasingly mature and progress. Those are the all-round results and requirements of the production and economic construction missions. But that aspect has an increasingly greater effect. Therefore, the party-political work must grasp the objectives and guide the units in the right direction, so that they will not go astray in any way.

It is necessary to correctly understand and unify the socialist commercial viewpoints. The effectiveness of production labor and economic construction is demonstrated in producing much wealth for society with the least expenditure of labor, raw materials, materials, and time. Therefore, in the process of production labor and economic construction, as soon as plans are drafted it is necessary to make scientific calculations and implement socialist economic and social accounting. In doing economic work the army must also firmly grasp those viewpoints and not make the excuse of distinctive characteristics to be compromising or arbitrary. It must also know how to apply them to the specific conditions of each basic unit and implement them correctly and creatively, without being mechanical or rigid.

Among the troops during economic work, correct and unified understanding of the socialist commercial viewpoints is concentrating on increasing labor productivity, economizing on materials and raw materials, fully utilizing the capabilities of machinery, and lowering production costs. The party-political work must enable the cadres and enlisted men, especially the leading cadres, to fully overcome their incorrect perception of regarding socialist commerce as being able to do anything by any means, provided that they make a lot of money and earn high profits. Such phenomena as competing in buying and selling to earn profits from price disparities, allowing the lower echelon to do as they please in return for "monetary payments," and taking advantage of "economic alliances" and "unifying the three benefits" to exchange goods in an unprincipled manner, which is in fact slipping state raw materials and goods to the free market or distributing them "internally," both of which cause very harmful consequences and are entirely contrary to the socialist commercial viewpoints. The army units fulfilling production labor and economic construction missions must fully understand that the economic missions assigned by the state have the goals of fulfilling part of the needs of the army. Contributing to resolving the nation's economic difficulties, and creating additional material-technical bases for socialism. In doing economic work they must increase social output at lower production costs and increase capital accumulation, but they are absolutely forbidden to "do business" or make profits by exchanging goods.

Under the conditions of the nation's economy still encountering many difficulties and the troops' needs not having been fully met, in emphasizing and explaining the viewpoint of self-reliance it is very necessary to be industrious, economical, incorruptible, and impartial in all aspects of production and consumption, and with regard to all individuals and units and under all circumstances. In production and economic construction it is

necessary to develop positiveness, initiative, creativity, willingness to think and do, and spirit of socialist cooperation, and positively apply science and technology, in order to bring into play the combined strength of all sectors and categories, resolve the problems, and effectively overcome the actual difficulties that are resolved. Everyone must be encouraged to overfulfill production plans, enthusiastically compete in coming forth with innovations, improve techniques, increase labor productivity, ensure the quality of products and projects, overcome the attitude of letting others do the work and passively awaiting plans and materials, waiting for the upper echelon to resolve problems, fearing difficulty, and remaining passive in the face of difficulties. It is necessary to closely lead the management and use of labor, equipment, materials, technical facilities, and finances, to ensure that every dong of capital, every pound of materials, and every work day that is invested brings about clear economic results. Everyone must be encouraged to maintain well and use for a long time all existing material-technical bases, use machinery capacity well, increase labor productivity, and lower production costs. Furthermore, it is necessary to pay all-out attention to overseeing the use of the material wealth that is produced, deliver products and distribute goods in correct accordance with regulations and policies, openly and fairly, and oppose corruption and unprincipled liberalism. All plans and measures that are set forth must be calculated scientifically and meticulously, be appropriate to the specific conditions, and avoid the waste of materials, labor, finances, and time.

Army units doing economic work must also pay attention to and fully carry out viewpoints regarding the unity of the three economic benefits, and ensure the benefit of society as a whole, the benefit of the collective unit, and the benefit of the workers. The three economic benefits are very closely interrelated and affect one another, so one may not be in opposition to another. The benefit of society as a whole, combat readiness, combat, and increasing the army's fighting strength and the nation's national defense strength must play the leading role. In actual practice, if there is distortion in one aspect the other aspects are also affected and therefore the basic, long-range interests of the state, the collectives, and the workers themselves are also harmed. Distribution must be fair, rational, and open to ensure internal solidarity and encourage all individuals and elements of the people engaged directly in production to work enthusiastically and with high productivity, good quality, and good economic effectiveness.

Third, strong organizations must be created and cadres and enlisted men must be developed into new socialist men.

The fulfillment of the political mission of a unit depends to a decisive degree on the organization and members of that unit. Therefore, building strong organizations and developing cadres and enlisted men into new socialist men is a very important mission of the party organizations, of the commanders, and of the political organ. If the unit is to do a good job of fulfilling its political mission, the decisive matter is that the basic party organizations in the production labor and economic construction units must be pure and strong and serve as the hard core in building comprehensively strong units.

The basic party organizations in the production labor and economic construction units are also a form of basic party organization in the armed forces. Therefore, the building of basic party organizations in such units, as well as the other forms of basic party organizations, must be comprehensive, with regard to politics, ideology, and organization. First of all, it is necessary to firmly grasp the political line and missions and the military line and missions of the party, the specific missions of the units, and the production labor requirements that must be met. The cadres and party members must be enabled to understand clearly and properly observe the economic viewpoints of the party, the policies, regulations, and rules regarding management, utilization, and the distribution of the results of labor, in the spirit of Resolution 8 of the Party Central Committee. It is necessary to organize control and closely combine the control work with the inspection work to ensure that the units' economic management is in correct accordance with the viewpoints of the party and the regulations of the state and army, and not allow anything to happen that is contrary to policies and laws.

In leadership, the basic party organizations must firmly grasp the principles of democratic centralism, collective leadership, and individual responsibility. It is necessary to emphasize self-criticism and criticism, struggle to overcome the phenomena of arbitrary liberalism, paternalism, dogmatism, self-seeking, and partialism, which lead to making mistakes or violating principles, regulations, and policies. Attention must be paid to improving the abilities of cadres and party members in all regards and enabling everyone to firmly grasp their missions and responsibilities, have scientific-technical, specialized, and professional knowledge based on the requirements and responsibilities of each person, especially the command cadres, management cadres, management cadres and professional, technical, planning, materials, financial, and other cadres, and overcome by all means the deficiencies caused by a lack of scientific-technical, specialized, and professional knowledge. It is necessary to pay all-out attention to cultivating cadres and party members with regard to will, responsibility, political quality, and work methods, and truthfully and frankly struggle against all incorrect viewpoints and deeds. The exemplary role of party members exerts a very great effect on the fulfillment of missions. The actual situation has demonstrated that units which fulfill their production missions well are able to do so, first of all, because the basic party organizations were pure and strong, and the cadres and party members were exemplary with regard to quality and ability, had leadership experience, had the work style of remaining close to the masses, and had the confidence of the masses. On the other hand, there were of course many reasons why some units were weak and deficient, but some of the important reasons were that the leading cadres lacked a sense of responsibility, were not exemplary, were self-seeking, and neglected the leadership principle and management of materials and finances, while cadres and party members were timid, indulgent, and rightist, were afraid to struggle and were afraid of being criticized.

In addition to leading and promoting the various tasks, the basic party organizations must continually be concerned for the lives of the masses. The foremost requirement is correctly and fully meeting standards, and observing regulations and policies, regarding workers. The most correct path for

improving living conditions is to use labor, increase productivity, and step up production and animal husbandry to improve living conditions, and oppose illegal methods of livelihood and the use of state and army goods for personal improvement,

The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the trade unions are important organizations which play very great roles in the units fulfilling production labor and economic construction missions. The most important matter is to bring into play the collective mastership right of the Youth Union members in the units' production labor and economic missions. The party committee secretaries and the political organs, along with the commanders and directors, must cooperate in improving the abilities of Youth Union members with regard to production, science and technology, and professional matters. On the basis of building comprehensively strong mass organizations, it is necessary to develop cadres, enlisted men, and workers into advanced workers with good moral quality and the ability to be the masters; with good thought and seething revolutionary enthusiasm; and with knowledge of production and economic management, who know how to correctly use the three economic interests, always place the interests of society above all, and know how to place the interests of the workers in a harmonious relationship with the other interests.

In the party-political work, it is necessary to closely combine the fulfillment of the production labor and economic construction missions with the development of the new man. People produce products and are responsible for them. Such people have clear political consciousness of their production labor goals, have a strong sense of responsibility toward their work, have appropriate ability, and know how to correctly resolve all relationships between contribution and enjoyment. Therefore all cadres, whether economic management cadres, scientific-technical cadres, etc., must be concerned with steeling themselves along those lines. Distorted manifestations in the production mobilization work, such as material incentives, regarding the political-ideological work lightly, exhorting people halfheartedly, and not being concerned with the legitimate interests of the workers, make it difficult for the units to fulfill their missions and attain the economic-technical norms, and in the units there will easily arise the situation of working carelessly and dishonestly, pursuing quantity and bonuses, producing shoddy goods, reporting only the good things, etc.

Fourth, the party-political work must firmly grasp the production labor and economic construction missions in order to have appropriate contents and forms and improve the effectiveness of the basic level.

The party-political work in the army must adhere closely to the requirements of the political mission and must be closely tied in with the military work, the scientific-technical work, production, etc. The role of the party-political work is to heighten people's political consciousness and revolutionary sentiment and by that means affect their consciousness, thought, and work. Therefore, the results of the fulfillment of missions by the units and by each individual depend to a decisive degree on the quality of the party-political work and the effectiveness of the party-political work is manifested by and tied in with the quality and effectiveness of the

fulfillment of missions. But it is insufficient to think that the goals of the party-political work in the production labor and economic construction units are only to attain or surpass the economic-technical norms, earn large profits, and improve the living conditions of the cadres and enlisted men. They must also be manifested in the political and ethical norms and in the political and ideological strength of both organizations and people.

At present, there are still many political cadres in the units doing economic work only concentrate on encouraging, creating enthusiasm, organizing emulation movements, etc., and do not pay adequate attention to political-ideological education and to developing organizations and people. Furthermore, in some places there still instances of neglect and rightism, toward the deficiencies and mistakes of cadres and enlisted men. Some people still believe that it is only necessary to attain or surpass economic norms, receive many benefits, and improve living conditions to end negative phenomena in the unit, or if living conditions are good and incomes are high labor productivity will increase! There are even units which still reduce the contents and time of the party-political work plans because they are afraid that it will adversely affect labor productivity and the fulfillment of production plans.

To think and act along those lines is to be truly mistaken and only see the short-range benefits without seeing the unified relationships in fulfilling the missions and developing the unit, for that is also one of the reasons why it is difficult for the units to avoid deficiencies and why they cannot mature.

On the basis of fully understanding the basic position, quality, and goals of the party-political work and the production labor and economic construction missions that are assigned, and on the basis of the specific objectives of the units, it is necessary to have very appropriate contents, creatively apply the activity forms of the party-political work, and achieving real results in fulfilling the missions regarding production labor and building comprehensively strong missions.

In the party-political work it is necessary to always take the initiative in firmly grasping the units' production labor and economic construction missions and tie them in with the organization and management of production labor, the scientific-technical professional work, and the other tasks, in order to affect the units, labor and production and encourage all individuals and elements to continually increase productivity, quality, and economic effectiveness.

While taking into consideration all factors, it is necessary to firmly grasp the three principal categories: the leading management cadres, the cadres specializing in planning, materials, and finances, and direct production workers, with regard to moral quality and production management ability, in order to do an increasingly better job of meeting the requirement of fulfilling the units' missions with increasingly better results.

The party-political work must affect all elements and aspects of the unit's activities, but must enter deeply into studying ways to strongly affect two

aspects which are still confused and with regard to which there are arising many problems that must be resolved: socialist economic-commercial accounting and the management, use, and distribution of the results of labor.

It is necessary to fully utilize all activity forms and apply measures that are flexible and appropriate to the circumstances, characteristics, categories, and season, in order to improve the effectiveness of the party-political work. Adequate attention must be paid to preliminary recapitulating, recapitulating, correctly evaluating the good points, gaining practical experience, and continually improve their knowledge in all regards, in order to improve the quality of work.

FOOTNOTES

1. Documents of the Fifth Party Congress, vol. I, p. 68.

5616

CSO: 4209/270

FERRY BOAT CAPTAIN ARRESTS GROUP ATTEMPTING ESCAPE BY SEA

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Dec 86 p 1

[Article by Bich Thuan: "Self-Defense Forces of Thanh Phu Passenger Ferry Arrests Gang Enticing and Organizing People to Flee By Sea"]

[Text] When the people's committee of Thanh Phu District in Ben Tre Province assigned him the job of piloting the Phu Hai passenger ferry, the largest ferry in the province, Huynh Van Ben went all-out to fulfil the mission that had been assigned him, from serving the passengers to protecting the facilities. He was also made responsible for the passenger ferry's self-defense personnel.

It had become almost second nature that every time passengers boarded the ferry to make the trip from Ben Tre to Thanh Ben, Ben was on the look-out for strangers. He helped the public security police in the surveillance of people who arranged for people to flee by sea.

On 29 September 1986 trip Ben noted many strangers boarding the ferry. He thought to himself, "Why is one of the men, wearing civilian clothing, a soldiers' hard-bill hat, and sunglasses, telling some other people to board the ferry, while he sat in the bow and occasionally looked around and appeared to be very nervous?"

The ferry arrived at the Bang Cung ferry landing. Everyone disembarked. Ben backed the ferry away from the ferry slip but moved at a slow speed. A boat manned by several people, coming from the Bang Cung canal, pulled up at the ferry landing Ben had just left. The people aboard the boat became frightened and fled into the bush. Ben blew his whistle and ordered them to halt. Only when Ben fired some rounds from his AR15 did they halt. Ben and the ferry's ticket seller ordered them aboard the ferry and gave them "priority" seating in the bow near the pilot house and Ben's gun.

They were Chinese from Ho Chi Minh City who specialized in seducing people into fleeing by sea and were captured by the self-defense personnel of the Phu Bai ferry and turned over to the public security police of Thanh Phu District. Ten people were arrested and a motorboat was confiscated.

The district people's committee awarded a certificate of commendation to Ben and all self-defense personnel of the Phu Hai passenger ferry.

5636

CSO: 4209/275

AGRICULTURAL OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON COOPERATION WITH USSR

Hanoi KHOA HOC VA KY THUAT NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese Nov 86 pp 483-486

[Article by Nguyen Dan, Vice Minister of Agriculture: "Ten Years of Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation in the Agricultural Sphere Between Vietnam and the Soviet Union (1976-1985)"]

[Text] Our party and state have always regarded "solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union as the foundation of their foreign policy."(1) That viewpoint, which is in nature a principle, of our party has been clearly manifested in the agricultural sphere.

If in the past cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union in the agricultural sphere was carried out only by means of foreign trade exchanges--we imported the technical materials for agricultural production and exported agricultural commodities to the Soviet Union--and had the nature of being one-way assistance, during the past 10 years, especially since the beginning of the 1981-1985 5 year plan, it has developed both in extent and depth and in the economic cooperation, scientific-technical cooperation, and training spheres, with richer and more varied forms that benefit both sides.

In the sphere of economic cooperation and technical assistance, in addition to the Soviet Union supplying, via foreign trade, fertilizer, insecticides, machinery, spare parts, fuel, etc., for agricultural production in general in order to fulfill the number-one mission at present--grain production--the principal form of cooperation is the Soviet Union lending us long-term loans, supplying equipment and materials, and helping us strengthen our material-technical bases in order to increase our capability to produce agricultural commodities for export and contribute to increasing effectiveness in using vehicles, machinery, equipment supplied by the Soviet Union to Vietnam, while also providing equipment for a number of scientific-technical research and teaching installations.

In the 1976-1980 plan period the Soviet Union helped us complete 42 export crop-growing state farms in the north. The Soviet Union helped us set up those state farms in the 1950's and the early 1960's. During the war of destruction waged by the U.S. imperialists, many of the state farms were heavily damaged. The restoration and completion of those state farms is an urgent matter with great significance. Therefore, immediately after the war

concluded, in October 1975, the Soviet Union agreed to grant us a long-term loan and sent technicians to work with us in drawing up a list of essential equipment and materials, which it supplied in accordance with a contract that was signed. Therefore, within a short period of time the state farms the state farms planted more than 10,000 additional hectares of export crops (coffee, tea, oranges, lemons, and pineapples), which contributed to stabilizing the state farms and increasing the supply of export goods.

In 1978 the governments of the two countries signed a treaty of cooperation on the basis of in-kind repayment with regard to rubber production on an area of 50,000 hectares in the eastern Nam Bo provinces, and in 1981 (also on an in-kind repayment basis) cooperation in coffee production and processing began on an area of 20,000 hectares in Dac Lac. That project is being carried out successfully, and by the end of 1985 about 5,000 additional hectares had been planted.

The effectiveness of the use of tractors and the other kinds of machinery and equipment in agriculture was too low and the problem of strengthening the technical maintenance and repair of agricultural machinery in our country was becoming urgent, so on 21 November 1977 the two governments concluded an agreement calling for the Soviet Union to supply complete equipment to set up 46 workshops to maintain tractors, two central stations to prepare tractors before they were delivered to the users, a warehouse for machinery parts, and 45 mobile repair vehicles, while also sending technicians to guide the installation and operation of that equipment. The project items of those cooperative projects have essentially been completed and brought into operation and have had a clear effect on production, especially the maintenance workshops in the southern provinces, where there are many agricultural machines but which previously had practically no maintenance installations.

In order to strengthen the material-technical bases for scientific-technical training and research, the Soviet Union helped us reequip Agricultural College No 1, build and equip the Vietnam-Soviet Agricultural Machinery worker School, and equip the Agricultural Mechanization and Equipment Institute and the Agricultural Machinery Research Center. The Vietnam-Soviet Agricultural Machinery Worker School, which the Soviet Union designed and for which it provided all equipment and the principal construction materials, may be regarded as a high-level center for training agricultural machinery workers and for training vocational instructors for the entire sector.

Most of the economic cooperation agreements between Vietnam and the Soviet Union call for the Soviet Union to send technicians to help us and for our cadres and technical workers to undergo training in the Soviet Union. For example, with regard to the Vietnam-Soviet Agricultural Machinery School, in addition to the technicians overseeing construction and the installation of machinery there are dozens of instructors of many subjects who guide the Vietnamese instructors in preparing curricula, improving their teaching methods, and effectively installing and using instructional aids and equipment. The specialists in installing and using the equipment of the tractor maintenance workshops have contributed effectively to building those workshops and bringing them into operation within the time specified by the

plan, and at the same time has organized classes for hundreds of Vietnamese cadres and workers on techniques for using the workshop's equipment. The Soviet technicians have also helped complete the economic-technical justifications, inspect technical construction equipment for clearing wasteland, improving fields, and building water conservancy projects for the model field areas of the Da Ban state farm, and assisted in technical planning for the model field area of the Nha Ho experimental farm.

Many Vietnamese technical cadres have gone to undertake training in the Soviet Union regarding workshop management, the use of equipment of the tractor maintenance workshops, techniques for using the new types of tractors, the mechanization of cotton growing, state farm management, and the repair of agricultural equipment and machinery.

Clearly, in the sphere of economic cooperation and technical assistance, cooperation with the Soviet Union has brought about real results and has helped us overcome difficulties regarding initial capital, materials, and equipment in strengthening the material-technical bases in all spheres of production, research, and training.

In the sphere of scientific-technical training, we have made encouraging progress. Before and during the 1970's scientific-technical cooperation in the agricultural sphere between our country and the Soviet Union amounted to only the exchange of technicians, beginning with the 1981-1985 5-year plan it was expanded, within the framework of an agreement that was signed between the Ministry of Agriculture of Vietnam and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Soviet Union. A long-range cooperative program was part of that program. That economic-technical cooperation program includes 11 topics:

1. The creation of a national crop variety structure.
2. Practical research on clearing and using land and creating methods to develop and use land and on zoning under Vietnam's conditions.
3. The preparation, completion, and application of land research methods with regard to agrochemistry in Vietnam, and recommendations for rationally using fertilizer.
4. The preparation and application of forms of scientifically based agrochemistry in agricultural production.
5. Research into the microscopic element contents of soil and the preparation of methods for effectively using microbiological fertilizer.
6. Research into the harm done by the various kinds of principal insects and diseases in cereal crops, vegetables, tropical crops, and cotton in Vietnam. The preparation of methods to prevent and eliminate them.
7. Genetic research to select varieties of microbes with nitrogen-fixing capabilities.

8. The preparation and application of methods for evaluating the quality of animal feed and recommendations for rationally using animal feed.
9. The preparation of a plan regarding, and recommendations regarding, the Vietnamese sericulture sector.
10. The preparation and completion of processes for producing bee colonies, queen bees, honey, and other products of the honey sector.
11. The preparation of measures for mechanizing the cultivation and harvesting of honey.

In order to carry out those topics, the organs participating in cooperation between the two sides have drafted plans in which they have specifically set forth the steps for carrying out those topics, the time for carrying them out, the results that must be attained, and the numbers and time with regard to the exchange of technicians. Thus the matter of agricultural scientific-technical cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union has begun to be put onto the right track, according to a long-range program and with a clear work plan.

Beginning in 1984, the results attained in carrying out those cooperative projects have been evaluated by the Vietnam-Soviet work team, and recently an over-all evaluation was made at the 11th meeting of the Vietnam-Soviet scientific-technical cooperation committee (December 1985).

In general, many projects attained relatively good results, such as the project on clearing and zoning land, which produced three basic documents on methodology regarding planning the distribution of natural resources among the sectors of the national economy, planning agriculture at the district level, planning agricultural enterprises, etc., which were tried out in two provinces, two districts, and two state farms. In the project regarding agrochemistry service in districts there were created demonstration models regarding the organization of agrochemical service in the districts in the new style, which deduced expenses, reduced the waste of materials, ensured quality and the seasonal schedule, reduced damage caused by insects and diseases by 50 percent, and increased crop yields by 20 to 25 percent. The projects to evaluate livestock feed determined a system for analyzing livestock feed in Vietnam, the distribution of livestock feed analysis laboratories nationwide, and the norms and methods of livestock feed analysis, and analyzed more than 260 livestock feed samples collected in areas all over the nation. The project regarding nitrogen-fixing microbes established the soybean nodule microbes with high nitrogen-fixing capability and produced nodule bacteria capable of increasing soybean yields in Ha Bac by 10.45 percent. Thanks to the results of cooperation, the sericulture project produced 23 additional silkworm varieties and 10 new mulberry varieties with good biological characteristics and good prospects. The vegetation protection project has begun to grasp methods for calculating the harm caused by insects and diseases with a scientific basis and of a solid economic basis, while also effectively researching combined prevention and elimination methods, including biological methods, etc.

Especially, with regard to the creation of a national crop variety structure, in October 1982 the Ministry of Agriculture of Vietnam and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Soviet Union signed an agreement on setting up joint Vietnam-Soviet plant variety selection locations (under the Vietnam Agricultural Science and Technology Institute in the north and under the Agricultural Technology Institute in the south). After 3 years of activity (1983-1985), those cooperative locations have clearly demonstrated that they are highly effective forms of cooperation. By means of that form of cooperation, the Soviet Union has supplied us with more than 20,000 many of seedstock of plants from the national crop structure of the I.N. Vavilov Agronomy Institute of the Soviet Union, which have been collected from many parts of the world. It studied nearly 26,000 many of seedstock of 69 types of domesticated and local crops, and isolated 515 samples of 32 different kinds of plants which are promising and are easily adaptable to the cultivation conditions of Vietnam, including many varieties of crops with which we are most concerned, such as rice, corn, soybeans, cotton, and even wheat, barley, and millet, collected nearly 3,000 seed samples from 42 types of crops and three kinds of wild local plants; created a seed collection at the Agricultural Science and Technology consisting of more than 5,170 seed samples; completed a program to crossbreed Vietnamese varieties with varieties of the Agronomy Institute of the Soviet Union, received 147 crossbred rice varieties and 55 soybean varieties, and grew on a trial basis at 10 cooperatives in five provinces and municipalities the Vietnam-Soviet 1-1, 1-2, 1-5, 1-7, and 1-10 varieties, among which there were two varieties, VX 1-2 and VY 1-10, which are quickly maturing, produce high yields, and resist insects and diseases well were selected and subjected to national experimentation at the beginning of 1985.

At the beginning of 1985 the agricultural ministries of the two countries signed an agreement to set up a joint Vietnam-Soviet agriculture research location at Bao Loc, which began operations at the end of 1985.

An important content of scientific-technical cooperation is the exchange of technicians. In accordance with the 11 projects included in the 1981-1985 cooperation program, dozens of Soviet technicians came to work in Vietnam and more than 100 Vietnamese cadres went to take short-term training in the Soviet Union. Among the Soviet technicians who came to Vietnam there were many scientific cadres who had years of experience and some of whom were directors or deputy directors of leading institutes in the Soviet Union. They provided effective assistance for us with regard to academic matters and research methodology. It was precious that the technicians at the Vietnam-Soviet cooperative seedstock locations worked night and day with the Vietnamese cadres in carrying out the projects, whether in laboratories or in the fields or in summer or winter, and provided much assistance in creating the national seed bank. Although the training in the Soviet Union was of limited duration it in the Soviet Union was of limited duration it helped the Vietnamese scientific cadres to study advanced research methods, use modern equipment, or carry out research which they were not able to do in our country (such as analyzing livestock feed, research nitrogen-fixing microbes, etc.)

Thus scientific-technical cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union, although the long-range program of specific projects has only just

begun initial results have been attained. Of course, in the implementation process it is inevitable that there be deficiencies which impede the carrying out of cooperation plans or reduce the effectiveness of cooperation. First of all, that is a matter of determining cooperative projects and drafting cooperation plans. If projects are not based on the urgent requirements of production and our research capabilities, they cannot be carried out (such as the mechanization of cotton harvesting). If projects are included in cooperative programs or in cooperation plans but the Ministry of Agriculture and the Agricultural Science and Technology Commission have not discussed and reached agreement on them, the input-output plans will not be at the most advantageous times to carry out the projects. Sometimes cadres are sent to study inappropriate subjects, which reduces the effectiveness of cooperation, etc.

In reviewing the past 10 years, especially the past 5 years, we see that the economic and scientific-technical cooperation in the sphere of agriculture between Vietnam and the Soviet Union has attained important results, contributed notably to the enterprise of developing our country's agricultural production, and created additional essential material-technical bases so that our country can have conditions for gradually advancing to large-scale socialist production. It is also a great victory for eternally lasting Vietnamese-Soviet friendship. According to our party's evaluation: "Close ties and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union are a principle and strategy and at the same time revolutionary sentiment." On the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the great October Revolution, our people and our country's agricultural sector express their profound gratitude to the glorious CPSU and the great Soviet people, for having given us unselfish, heart-felt, and effective assistance.

It is certain that in the future economic and scientific-technical cooperation in the sphere of agriculture between our country and the Soviet Union will achieve even greater, even more comprehensive accomplishments for the benefit of the people of our two countries.

5616

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FATHERLAND FRONT ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 10 Dec 86 p 5

[Article by T.T.X.: "Fatherland Front Looks After the Lives of the People"]

[Text] The nearly 1.5 million people in Ho Chi Minh City who belong to the mass organizations that form the Vietnam Fatherland Front are the activists in implementing the policies of the Municipal CPV Committee on looking after the material and spiritual lives of the laboring people. The Front and the mass organizations have reorganized the population situation in the subwards and wards, and based on this, they have helped the authorities make plans to look after the people.

Looking after the daily meals of the workers, civil servants, and laboring people has gradually become a routine in each population zone. Through the Women's Association and the Youth Union, a network has been formed to provide for essential needs such as food and fuel. There is a support point for about every 500 people. In the subwards, the front is playing a central role. Together with the functional sectors, it makes inspections and regularly helps the sales points provide correct support. In many subwards, the Front has mobilized people to donate food and clothing to help the poor families. It has organized vocational classes to expand production and provide jobs for people of work age. In many subprecincts and subwards in precincts 1 and 10 and Binh Thanh Ward, together with the authorities and sectors, the Front is providing various services such as selling ready-made clothing, operating barber shops, and repairing household utensils at reasonable prices.

The various-echelon Front organizations have regularly given attention to providing housing for the people and to building and repairing public projects. At times, this has turned into a mass movement, and practical results have been achieved. During the past 3 years, the city has repaired or built more than 14,000 buildings. In this, the Front has played an active role in mobilizing people to implement the motto the "state and people working together." Subward 21 in Binh Thanh Ward is the place where this movement got underway. In 1985, this subward built 20 new buildings and solved the problem of dilapidated housing and lack of sanitation for the poor laborers.

From the experiences of Subward 21, the Front organizations in 50 other subwards and subprecincts have mobilized people to contribute man-days and

materials to repair roads, dredge canals, and build additional classrooms so that the schools do not have to teach three sessions of students. In Precinct 4, the people have leveled a number of marshy zones, built additional "feelings and duty" houses and classrooms, upgraded the small paths, and prevented waterlogging during the rainy season, with the gross value being more than 6 million dong. More than 29,000 families in Ward 4 have promised to instruct their children in accord with the five points taught by President Ho and promote the "cultured speech" movement in order to provide extracurricular training for students and "feelings of love" classes for poor children who cannot attend school.

In response to the policy of stimulating family and individual production, through the Industrial-Commercial Liaison Committee, the Municipal Fatherland Front has organized and recommended production plans and measures to create sources of raw materials in order to help the families do studies and make selections. The Front organizations at the various echelons have informed the Municipal People's Committee of the people's concerns and suggestions concerning this policy in order to add specific regulations or make revisions. Thus, to date, 3,776 households have registered for production. Of these, 3,500 have been issued permits and begun production operations, which has created jobs for almost 12,000 laborers.

11943

CSO: 4209/301

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF NOVEMBER YOUTH JOURNAL

Hanoi THANH NIEN in Vietnamese Oct 86 p 32

[Text] How To Attain High Effectiveness? (Article by Anh Chi [ANH CHI])	pp 1-2
Social Justice and Developing the Social Positiveness of Youths (Article by Vu Ngoc Lan [VUX NGOCJ LAN])	pp 3-4
Deficiencies That Must Be Overcome (Article by Nguyen Trong Thuc [NGUYEENX TRONGJ THUWCS])	pp 5-6
The Central Youth Union School--30 Years of Development (Article by Nguyen Tung Son [NGUYEENX TUNGF SOWN])	pp 7-9
Returning to Reality (Article by Le Kim Long [LEE KIM LONG])	pp 10-12
District Collaborators (Article by Tran Mieu and Dao Xuan [TRAANF MIEEUR and DAOF XUAAN])	pp 13-14
Inspirational Propaganda by Small Exhibitions (Article by Phung Quang [PHUNGF QUANG])	pp 15-16
Build a Dance Activity Movement Based on Categories and Areas (Article by Van Anh [VAWN ANH])	pp 17-19
Some Notes on the International Students' Association	p 20
What Do You Think of Youths? (Article by Vladimir Supkin)	pp 21-24
Father and Son--Conflict or Dialogue? (Alexander Tolstoi)	pp 25-26
On Soviet Youths in the 1980's (Article by Nickolai Drinkhov)	pp 27-28

College Students in the Soviet Union: Sociology and Their Strong
Subjects pp 29-30
(Article)

"Glory" p 31
(By Oterova Goma)

5616
CSO: 4209/2/5

WRITER: TO REESTABLISH MARKET ORDER, MUST STABILIZE PRODUCTION

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 10 Dec 86 pp 5, 7

[Article by Huu Tam: "Ho Chi Minh City: How Can Order Be Brought to the City Markets?"]

[Text] For several years now, the Ho Chi Minh City markets have been regarded as an urgent matter. Many measures have been proposed. But the situation at the markets, which lacked order to begin with, has grown even worse. Many earnest appeals have been made to reestablish market order, especially at the organized markets. But the organized markets no longer seem to be worthy of their name.

Trading is carried on chaotically in the organizations with commercial business functions and has affected even those organizations that do not have such functions. This is an important reason why prices are rising so quickly.

In order to find a way to restore order to the city's markets, perhaps we need to follow the path taken by commodities.

The Path to Production

In order to maintain production, many of the city's important production sectors must rely on imported raw materials and materials. But importing materials requires foreign currency and so the municipal export-import sector is doing everything it can to step up exports.

One ton of Grade 1 coffee earns \$2,000. The purchase price at city markets in March 1986 was 170 dong per kg. But the city does not produce coffee. To obtain large quantities of coffee, the city must send many export goods "supply" units to compete for sources of goods. The price of coffee at the source has shot up quickly and is now 500-550 dong per kg. In September, the price at city markets was 650-680 dong per kg. At this price, in order to earn \$1, the city must spend 325-340 dong.

One ton of Grade 1 pepper earns \$3,000. In March 1986 the price at the source was 350 dong per kg. Because of the competition for this item, the price in the city has now risen to 950-1,050 dong per kg. At this price, the city must spend 316-350 dong to earn \$1.

Using this method, to export dried squid, dried shrimp, green beans, and other items, the city export-import organizations must spend 240-330 dong in order to earn \$1. Because of the competition for goods, the export-import organizations must pay higher and higher prices to bring in a dollar. As a result, even though commodity prices on foreign markets have not increased, materials and raw materials imported for production have risen in price. Before they are used in production, imported materials and raw materials must pass through various winding paths. For example, the Municipal Export-Import General Corporation imports PE asphalt at a cost of \$870 per ton and sells it to the wards for \$1,050 per ton. When the wards resell it, they add 5 percent to the price. Thus, the production installations that purchase asphalt must pay an additional 5 to 40 dong per kg above the invoice price.

Things are better in the textile sector. Since the beginning of the year, the city has supplied the Hong Gam Federation of Textile Enterprises 75 tons of yarn. The federation has to do work on contract for central and provincial economic organizations. Thus, cloth is woven in the city, but the city does not get the cloth. One kg of "petech" yarn can be used to weave 15 meters of materials. But the units that own the materials and let out the work on contract receive only 8 meters. The other 7 meters are regarded as production expenses and profits. The weaving installations sell this on the "free" markets. Thus, for every 1,000 tons of yarn, the state allows 7 million meters of xoa cloth to slip out of its hands. This is the "economic basis" that allows the cooperatives stores in the cloth sector to continue operating. This is why the state's policy of monopolizing cloth trading has not been in use for a long time.

To Market

Commodities must pass through a tortuous path to reach the consumers. Because the materials and raw materials used in production do not follow the planned norms, meaning that the state does not supply adequate quantities or use the stable state prices, there is no way that the commodity products can follow the path of socialist commerce. Instead, they must pass through many elements of private commerce and through the hands of the shareholders of the cooperative businesses before finally reaching the cooperative stores, or socialist commerce.

A cooperative store in Precinct 5 said that during July and August, it purchased 723,016 meters of cloth. Of this, two-thirds was obtained from private merchants. The remaining amount was purchased from almost 30 collective and state-operated organizations. Some of these, such as the Mat Weaving Cooperative, the Materials Supply Corporation, the Machine Construction Enterprise, the Municipal Furniture Corporation, and the Specialist Support Corporation, were very unfamiliar with the business activities of the cloth

sector. Many ward-level commercial corporations such as service, agricultural products, and sundry goods corporations and many subward consumer cooperatives that have "surplus" cloth sell cloth to cooperatives stores.

After leaving the production sector, the commodities pass through many elements. This adds many additional costs and so prices increase.

The state set the selling price of asphalt at 320-350 dong per kg. But on the retail market, consumers must pay 400-500 dong per kg. The state-stipulated price of xoa cloth for state commerce is 100 dong per meter. But consumers must pay 400-500 dong per meter.

Markets with New Order

A orderly market is one in which socialist commerce controls most of the commodities produced and the consumers are able to purchase commodities at stable prices. If this is to become a reality, the production organizations must be able to obtain sufficient raw materials and materials at stable prices. But in reestablishing order, where should we begin? The only way is to look at this from the "start" of production. Thus, reestablishing order in collecting the export goods of the city is one of the urgent tasks. The city must reorganize the division of labor and decentralization in obtaining export commodities and implement disciplinary measures concerning prices that are strong enough to eliminate competition for sources of goods within the export-import sector and ensure that the cost of purchasing export goods with exchange rates is not excessively high or arbitrary.

On the other hand, the city can allow the city's federated production enterprises to exploit the sources of foreign currency of compatriots living abroad who send back raw materials and materials to participate in domestic production. This must be done using exchange rates approximately equal to the cost of purchasing the goods domestically.

Today, the production sectors in the city are very "self-sufficient," but this has not been exploited. The asphalt sector can easily mobilize 5,000 tons per year using the capital of compatriots living abroad. With this quantity of materials, there will be sufficient commodity products to satisfy market demand, and the Federation of Asphalt Enterprises will make a profit of 650 million dong and save the state 4.35 million dong per year in foreign currency. In just 12 to 18 months, the municipal asphalt sector can balance the sources of capital and replace the old equipment.

Similarly, the Federation of Textile Enterprises can mobilize 2,000 tons of yarn and produce 30 million meters of "xoá" cloth a year, create a price difference of approximately 1.6 billion dong, and save the city \$6 million a year. It would take the textile sector just 2 years to balance the sources of capital and replace the old equipment.

The exchange rate accepted by the asphalt, textile, and a number of other economic-technical sectors in mobilizing foreign currency remitted by compatriots is a modest rate when compared with the rate accepted by the municipal export-important sector. And it appears even more modest when compared with today's exchange rate at the city's black markets.

The pressure being put on exchange rates at the municipal markets is causing concern among compatriots living abroad. The February 1986 issue of DAT NUOC, which is published by the Vietnamese Association in West Germany, published an article that discussed the problem: While the state sells goods at the INTERSHOP (Ho Chi Minh City) at the stipulated exchange rate of 180 dong to the dollar and the exchange rate on the black market is 230 dong to the dollar, the official exchange rate set by the State Bank is just 50 dong to the dollar. Thus, there is no incentive for compatriots to remit foreign currency through the State Bank. The author of the article suggested that the state allow people to remit money at a rate similar to that of the INTERSHOP. If that is done, compatriots will remit large sums of money instead of purchasing goods from the INTERSHOP and then selling them on the black market.

The city should allow the economic-technical sectors to operate with a more active mechanism based on the viewpoint of accumulating from the production stage. This must be done in conjunction with implementing administrative control measures and raising the tax rate on luxury goods in accord with the policy of supporting production by delivering raw materials and materials for production at reasonable prices. The raw materials and materials that are imported must be in accord with the needs of production. They must be delivered directly to the state production enterprises. They must not be allowed to pass through the "free" markets before entering production. The pressure on production must be relieved as soon as possible. That is, today, raw materials and materials are not supplied at stable prices, but the production installations are forced to deliver commodity products for commerce based on stable prices.

Market order cannot be reestablished unless production is stable. The "beginning" is just as important as the "end." This is the new way of looking at things of people who are contributing to producing material goods for society.

11943

CSO: 4209/301

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